賭博黙示録

1

福本伸行

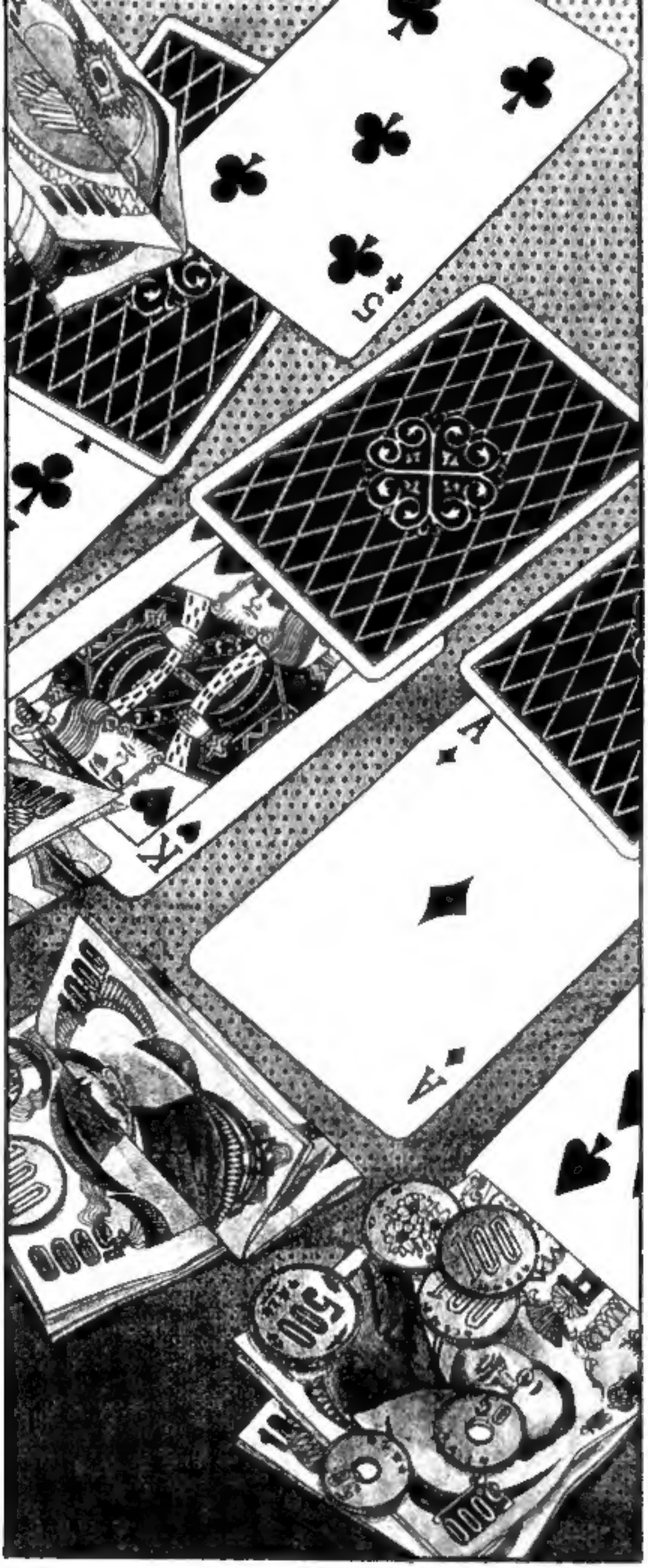
賭博黙示録

カイジ 1

賭博黙示録

Chapter 1 [Hope] 5
Chapter 2 [Dangerous Path] 37
Chapter 3 [Darkness] 61
Chapter 4 [Voyage] 79
Chapter 5 [Game] 97
Chapter 6 [Break-up] 115
Chapter 7 [A Smart Move] 133
Chapter 8 [Scam] 151
Chapter 9 [Hopeless] 169
Chapter 10 [Teamwork] 187
Chapter 11 [Plot] 205

IS IN
OUR
HANDS



THE
FUTU-
RE

Chapter 1 "Hope"

The Future is in our Hands

A GUY WHO KEEPS LOSING MONEY.

.....

YET I STILL KEEP LOSING

I ALREADY DON'T HAVE A JOB.

I lost again ...

BECAUSE THEY KEEP WINNING MONEY.

The Future is in our Hands

FOR A GUY LIKE ME WHO KEEPS LOSING MONEY, THESE WORDS ARE BEYOND EMBARRASSING .....

OUR FUTURE WILL ALWAYS BE BRIGHT.

NO ONE CAN GUARANTEE ...

BUT ...

THESE ARE WORDS OF WISDOM.

CERTAINLY ...

The Future is in our Hands

WHY?

SEEM TO HAVE A BRIGHT FUTURE.

HA-BU

DA-TE AND

NO-MO AND

ゴ"ロ"..

HA HA HA

HA HA HA HA

KU KUKU ...

I LOST THE GAMBLE ...

KU KUKU ...

FAR EAST AIR FOR

HA ... ...

HUH? WHAT'S THIS ...?

How... how did this happen ..

What am I doing crying ...

I ...

ゴ"ゴ"ゴ"

Eh-hh Eh-hh

DAMM- IT!

I want to get out of this shit-hole...

But what can I do about it ...?

YEAH, GO FOR IT .....

I gotta get a job...

I think ...

EVER SINCE HE MOVED TO TOKYO 3 YEARS AGO.

WAS THE MOST MISERABLE TIME THAT ITOU KAIJI EXPERI-ENCED...

FEB-RUARY 1996,

SOME-TIMES,

SO HE PASSED HIS DAYS EITHER DRINKING OR GAMBLING.

AT THE START OF THE YEAR,

HE GOT LAID OFF,

BUT HE TRIED TO MESS UP OTHER PEOPLE'S LIVES ...

NOT ONLY WAS HE COM-PLETELY UNPRO-DUCTIVE ...

AND VANDA-LIZE THEM.

LOOK FOR LUXURY CARS PARKED BY THE ROADSIDE,

HE WOULD STEP OUT,

WHEN THE BOREDOM OF HIS AIMLESS DAYS BECAME OVERWHELMING ...

JUST AS HE HAD GIVEN UP AND WAS ABOUT TO HEAD HOME...

HIS FAVORITE PREY - THE BENZ.

HE COULDN'T FIND

TODAY ...

.....

ガガガ...

キィ..

Ku kuku ...

Ku kuku ...

This should do it ...

Ku kuku ...

A shocking work of art, eh .....

How d'ya like that ...?

Ku kuku ...

There's no way an honest man could be driving that sort of car anyway.

He's gotta be either a power hungry bully ...

or a violent thug ...

What comes around, goes around ...

This just happens to be the day it came back to you, buddy .....

This is just his well deserved punish-ment ...

Maybe even a tax evading scum-bag...

See ya ...

HIS MOOD FELT SOMEWHAT LIGHTER, BUT...

BE-CAUSE OF HIS PRANK,

NONE OF HIS REAL PROBLEMS HAD BEEN SOLVED.

It's all about money ...

Is it money ...?

...

Dam-mit ...

Am I a retard ...?!

I ...

Anyways, what am I doing crying...Oh my god...

... ...

FORCE

WHAT THE FUCK DO YOU WANT ...!

THAT'S ME... AND YOU ARE ...

YEAH... YES...

ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH A MAN CALLED FURUHATA TAKESHI .. ?

ITOU KAIJI ...?

ARE YOU... KAIJI ...

ER, I MEAN.. HOW CAN I HELP YOU...?

ER, NO ...

AH ...

WE'RE PRACTI-CALLY... CUT OFF FROM ONE ANOTHER...

BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM IN AGES...

...

IF YOU MEAN ONE OF MY CO-WORKERS FROM A YEAR AGO .....

AH YEAH... I KNOW HIM...

Furuhata

FURU-HATA ...?

...

WHAT ..?

THIS ISN'T SOMETHING I WANT TO DISCUSS AT YOUR DOORSTEP.

CAN WE CONTINUE THIS CONVERSATION INSIDE ...?

HEH ...

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO HIM...?

are hanging openly in my room!

Those car emblems that I ripped off...

Uh-oh!

NO... WE CAN'T, ITS JUST THAT..ER...

OH REALLY ..

I CAN GRAB A BITE TO EAT, TOO.

YOU KNOW WHAT... I THINK ITS BETTER WE GO SOMEPLACE OUTSIDE!

What if this guy is the owner of one of the Benzes...

AH.. UM..

I'LL GO GET MY CAR.

AL-RIGHT THEN ...

FAR E

FINE WITH ME.

...

...

...

FAR

hiding these guys first...

I'm better off...

Fufufu ...

Even though I have no idea who he is ...

WOAH, THAT WAS CLOSE!!

AL-RIGHT...

YEAH! THANKS FOR YOUR HELP...

...YEAH, LET'S DO THAT...

.....

.....

YE... YES...

WE HAVE TO WAIT FOR SOMEONE TO PICK US UP.

DAMMMMM!

WHAT?!

MY TIRE RAN A FLAT.

HUH...?

WE'RE OUT OF LUCK, KAIJI-KUN!

TWO GROWN MEN HANGING OUTSIDE A HOUSE IN BROAD DAYLIGHT...

ISN'T SOMETHING NORMAL...

REALLY SO COLD TODAY ...?

HUH? IS.. IS IT ..

I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THAT!

This is bad..!

.....

WHA ...?

CAN WE GO INSIDE ...?

AH ...

I DON'T WANT TO DRAW ATTENTION TO MYSELF ...

YOU'RE WEL-COME!

THANK YOU!

OH ...

PLE-ASE ...

カチャ…

カチャ…

...
TCH, REALLY
...

EH
...

THOSE PUNKS?! WHAT KIND OF SICK PLEASURE DO THEY GET OUT OF IT?!

DON'T YOU JUST HATE THOSE PEOPLE.

TCH, REALLY
...

カチャーン..

YOU DID IT, DIDN'T YOU ...?

YOU..
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...?!

...WHERE DID THAT COME FROM ...!

YOU
...

I NEVER SAID I GOT PUNKED!

ONLY SAID MY CAR... RAN A FLAT...

I
...

STOP JOKING WITH ME...

UWA-AAH ...!

GAH ...!

WAIT A MINUTE ...WAIT ...!

WAIT
...

Ah
...

SHALL I SAY IT...

THIS IS...

WELL ...

THIS ..HOW ..

AH ...

IT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU SEE...!

BUT I ONLY RIP OFF BENZES ...

I KEEP MY HANDS OFF THE OTHER CARS!

WITH SOME CARS IN THE NEIGHBOUR-HOOD...

I ADMIT I'VE MESSED AROUND ...

HUH ...?

HOW DID YOU KNOW ...?

PLEASE, YOU REALLY HAVE TO BE-LIEVE ME ...!

THAT MY CAR ...

...HOW DID YOU KNOW...

WAS NOT A BENZ ...?

Ah ah ah ah ...

Ah... Ah...

Ah ...

ICHIBANKAN

ブロロロ・・・

不動産

I'm a goner!

This time, I'm dead for sure!

. . . . . .

I'm dead ...

BUT... BUT THIS TIME, HOW SHOULD I SAY THIS?

NOR MA...Y I WOULD MAKE YOU TO PAY FOR THE DAMAGES.

HOW MUCH WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO PAY YOU...? I'M NOT EXACTLY...VERY RICH, YOU KNOW...

. . . . . .

THA... THAT IS...

KU KU KU ...

I'M SORRY ...

FORGET IT...!

.....

WHY ...?

FOR THE TIME AND EFFORT NEEDED TO SQUEEZE MONEY OUT OF YOU...

IT WOULD BE FASTER

TO LOAN THAT FROM SOME METAL SHOP!

FOR START-ERS ...

THIS IS THE LEAST OF YOUR WORRIES ...

WHAT ...?

.....

KUKU ...

YOUR REAL PRO BLEM IS...

WELL, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "THE LEAST OF MY WOR-RIES"...?

KU KU KU ...

THE LEAST OF MY WOR-RIES ...?

AH ...

THE FURUHATA WHOM I BRIEFLY MEN-TIONED...

ONE OF THEM IS...

THE ONLY THINGS HE LEFT BEHIND WERE THE 10 ODD CREDIT RECEIPTS FROM LOAN SHARKS.

YUP ...

THAT GUY RAN AWAY AND DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE...?

HE RAN AWAY!?

I'M DESPE-RATE FOR MONEY

SEN-PAI! SAVE ME!

KU KU KU ...

.....

CAN YOU STILL REMEM-BER...?

THIS ONE ...

KU KU KU ...

Damn!

Damn!

Damn!

BE MY GUA-RANT-OR ..

I BEG YOU! I WON'T CAUSE ANY PRO-BLEMS!

That bas-tard ...!

WITHOUT A GUAR-ANTOR, THERE'S JUST NO WAY...

BUT I'M STILL UNDER-AGED.

ANY LOAN SHARK WILL LEND MONEY TO ME.

THE PRO-BLEM I'M TALKING ABOUT

THIS IS ...

DO YOU REMEMBER NOW? KAIJI.

THE GUARANTOR, WHICH MEANS YOU.

I'M SORRY ...

IT'S UNFORTUNATE... BUT THERE ARE UPS AND DOWNS IN LIFE...

BUT SINCE THE ORIG NAL BORROWER HAS DISAP-PEARED,

IT'S VERY REGRET-TABLE ...

THE DEBT NATU-RALLY PASSES ONTO--

YOU CAN DO IT... EVERY MONTH, LITTLE BY LITTLE...

TO FOOT THE BILL FOR ANOTHER PERSON ...?

... HAVE THE ABILITY ...

HOW CAN A GUY LIKE ME...

I CAN BARELY PAY FOR MY DAILY EXPENSES ...

BUT RIGHT NOW ...

KAIJI-KUN.

YOU MUST BE JOKING AGAIN.

KU KU KU ...

HOW CAN I FINISH PAYING 300K...

EVEN IF I PAY A LITTLE A MONTH...

BEFORE RUNNING AWAY.

AND WITH IT ...

FURUHATA NEVER PAID BACK A SINGLE CENT OF THE DEBT OR THE INTEREST...

HUH ...?

SO WE'RE NOT JUST TALKING ABOUT 300K.

THERE'S THIS THING CALLED INTEREST, YOU KNOW.

IT'S NOT ONLY 300K ...?

WE'RE DEFINITELY NOT JUST TALKING ABOUT 300K ...

IT'S ALREADY THE 14TH MONTH NOW...

WHICH MEANS THE INTEREST HAS BEEN COMPOUNDED 14 TIMES.

AT THIS INTEREST RATE, 300K...

IT'S WRITTEN HERE," A COMPOUND INTEREST OF 20% MONTHLY"

PLEASE LOOK AT THE CONTRACT!

IT'S 3.85 MILLION !!

KU KU KU ...

I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT ..

SO EXACTLY HOW MUCH IS IT NOW ...?!

KU KUKU ...

...THA-THAT'S IMPOS-SIB-LE...

.....

KU KU KU ...

YOU'RE TOO NAIVE... KAIJI!

I MEAN, EVEN FOR THE LOAN SHARKS ...

WHY...WHY DID YOU LET MATTERS GET OUT OF HAND LIKE THAT?

	元金	
	30	
1	36	
2	43.	
3	51.	
4	62.2	
5	74.6	5
6	89.5	6
7	107.4	7
8	128.9	8
9	154.7	9
10	185.7	10
11	222.9	11

IT INCREASES BY 20% EVERY MONTH.

THREE ...THREE MILLI ...?

THERE'S NO MISTAKE,

HERE ARE THE STATISTICS WITH THE COMPOUND INTEREST.

THAT LOAN SHARK AND THAT ONE CALLED FURUHATA ARE ACCOMPLICES.

THERE'S NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT,

YOU'VE BEEN SCAMMED ...

SO THEY STAMP ON THEIR SEALS WITHOUT FURTHER THOUGHT.

THEY JUST END UP OWING 300K,

THEY THINK THAT...IF ANYTHING HAPPENS ...

THAT A LOT OF ORDINARY PEOPLE FALL FOR.

THIS IS A CLASSIC TRICK,

A LOT OF PEOPLE MISUNDERSTOOD THIS POINT,

BUT TO ALL THE CLAUSES IN THE CONTRACT.

WHAT THEY ARE AGREEING TO IS NOT JUST 300K,

HOWEVER IN ACTUAL FACT---

BUT AT THIS TIME.

YES, ITS HARSH ...

RETURNS TO BITE THEM IN THE BUTT!

THE DEBT, INFLATED HORRIBLY BY THE INTEREST ---

BUT JUST AS THEY HAVE ALMOST FORGOTTEN ABOUT IT,

SUDDENLY ...

SO THEY LEAVE THE CONTRACT SITTING FOR A YEAR,

AND LET YOU PAY BACK 100K PER MONTH.

I'M GOING TO BE REASONABLE WITH YOU,

SO I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE YOU PAY IT AT SUCH A HIGH INTEREST RATE,

HOW-EVER, I'M A NICE GUY!

YOU HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO PAY THE BILL IN FULL.

TO PAY OFF 3.85 MILLION,

CALCU-LATING AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF 15% ...

OKAY, I'LL MAKE IT 60K..

NO.., I GUESS 100K IS STILL TOO MUCH FOR YOU. .

IT'S GOTTA BE AT LEAST 60K OR MORE.

.....

ITS FASTER THAN I THOUGHT!

IF YOU'RE HARD-WORK-ING...

FUFUFU.

SHOULD TAKE ABOUT 130 MONTHS

OR 11 YEARS

.....

HOW ABOUT IT...

YOU CAN PAY OFF THE DEBT WHEN YOU'RE 32-33 YEARS OLD...

I'M UNDER NO OBLIGATION AT ALL TO PAY YOU ..!

IN THE FIRST PLACE, SUCH A HIGH INTEREST RATE IS ILLEGAL!

NEVER ...!

I'LL NEVER PAY YOU ...

STOP FUCKING AROUND ...

ILLEGAL IS A PART OF THE LAW TOO ..

KAIJI-KUN!

SO EVERYONE HAS TO PAY.

IN OTHER WORDS ...

EACH ONE OF ITS CLAUSES IS VALID ...

THIS KIND OF INTEREST RATE, WHICH "DOUBLES EVERY TEN DAYS", IS FOUND EVERYWHERE

NOT ONLY THAT ---

LET ME EXPLAIN IN SIMPLE TERMS HOW THIS WORLD WORKS

AND EVEN THOUGH YOUR FATHER HAS PASSED ON,

SHE WORKS AT A GOVERMENT JOB. WHAT IF I LET HER KNOW ABOUT YOUR PLIGHT?

LET'S TAKE YOUR OLDER SISTER FOR EXAMPLE, KAIJI-KUN!

THIS IS OUR JOB ...

I CAN COLLECT ON EVERY ONE OF THEM,

AND ANY DEBT WE SET OUR SIGHTS ON, WE CAN DEFINITELY COLLECT

. . . . . .

. . . . . .

FORGET ABOUT 10 YEARS, I RECKON YOUR DEBT CAN BE REPAID IN 5!

WITH THE WHOLE FAMILY CHIPPING IN ...

I'M SURE SHE'LL HELP YOU IF I TELL HER ABOUT IT

YOUR MOTHER IS STILL WORKING PART-TIME,

. . . . . .

. . . . . .

. . . . . !

KAIJI ...!

YOU SCUMBAG..! IF YOU TOUCH ...

I DON'T WANT THIS TO HAPPEN EITHER!

. . . . . .

TO SEE YOU BEING HATED BY YOUR OWN FAMILY ..

I DON'T WANT TO SEE THAT HAPPEN!

YOU KNOW ...

I REALLY HATE TO SEE THIS HAPPEN!

I REALLY PREFER NOT TO DO ANY-THING LIKE THAT.

CALM DOWN ...

.....

.....

LET'S GET DOWN TO THE MAIN POINT ...

SIT DOWN!

.....

THAT'S RIGHT ...

THE MAIN POINT ...?

.....

IN ONE MONTH FROM NOW ...

MY REAL PURPOSE FOR CON-TACTING YOU...

I'M FI-NALLY ABOUT TO TELL YOU...

THERE'S A SHIP SETTING SAIL FROM HARUMI PIER,

CALLED "ESPOIR", IT MEANS "HOPE" IN FRENCH...

RIGHT NOW... THE SHIP IS LOOKING FOR...

PARTICI-PANTS TO GO ABOARD.

PARTICI-PANTS ...?

THAT'S COR-RECT.

ONE NIGHT ABOARD THAT SHIP ...

THAT IS, IF YOU'RE LUCKY...

WHAT WILL TAKE YOU 10 YEARS TO PAY BACK ...

YOU CAN REPAY IN A SINGLE DAY!

REPAY ...?

EXA-CTLY ...

FOR A ONE NIGHT OF GAMBLE CRUISE...

A GROUP OF DESPE-RATE YOUNG MEN LIKE YOU,

I'M TALKING ABOUT GATHERING TOGETHER ..

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ...?

IN OTHER WORDS, THIS IS A GAMBLING SHIP...

BUT IF YOU CAN WIN

.....

DEPE-NDING ON THE SEVERITY OF THE DEBT ..

YOU WILL REMAIN ON THE SHIP AND BE BROUGHT TO AN UNKNOWN DESTINATION,

SOME PEOPLE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RETURN TO JAPAN FOR 1-2 YEARS.

THE DEBT INCURRED WILL BE COM-POUNDED.

IF YOU LOSE ...

STEP OFF THE BOAT EVERY TIME...

QUITE A FEW GUYS LIKE THAT ...

KAIJI ...

AND NOT JUST THAT...

THE DEBT WILL BE COMPLETELY REPAID ..

YOU CAN END UP WINNING 1 OR 2 MILLION...

GET ON THAT SHIP!

.....

.....

SURE THING ...

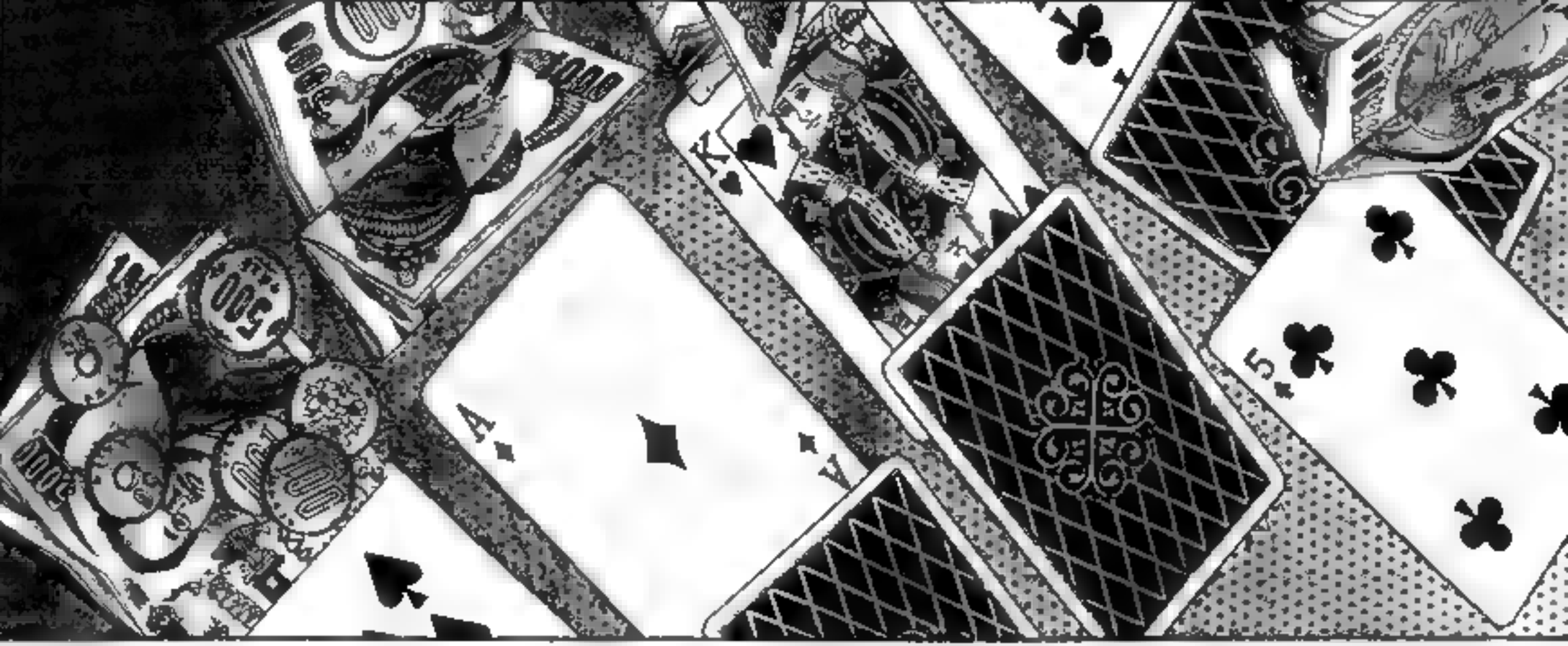
I CAN REPAY MY DEBT IF I WIN...?

FAR EAST AIR FORCE

BEAT THE ODDS ...

GET ON THAT SHIP,

RETURN HOME A WINNER!



TRANSLATION : SILENCE
TRANSLATION CHECK : THE_WORM
CLEANING : LAVOS/SKEITH20/ALADAR
TYPESETTING : ALADAR
QUALITY CHECK : THE_WORM

The last match of the trash who are on verge of death.

This is a fitting place for losers like you.

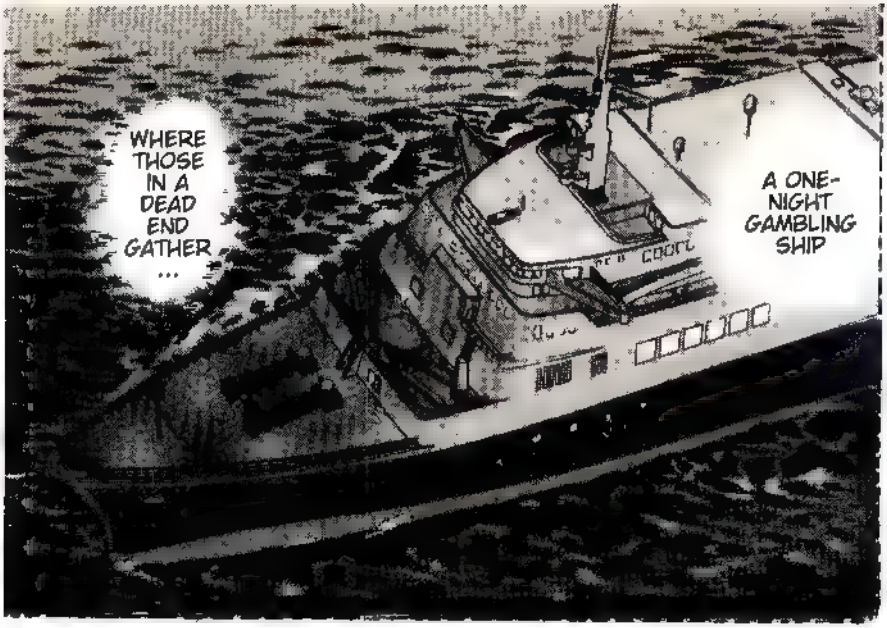
Ku ku ku ...

On the carnage ship that pulls you to the depths of hell.

For one night, losers like you try to grasp at the slightest glimmer of hope ..

THE SHIP OF HOPE.

SHE IS CALLED ESPOIR,


WHERE THOSE IN A DEAD END GATHER ...
A ONE-NIGHT GAMBLING SHIP

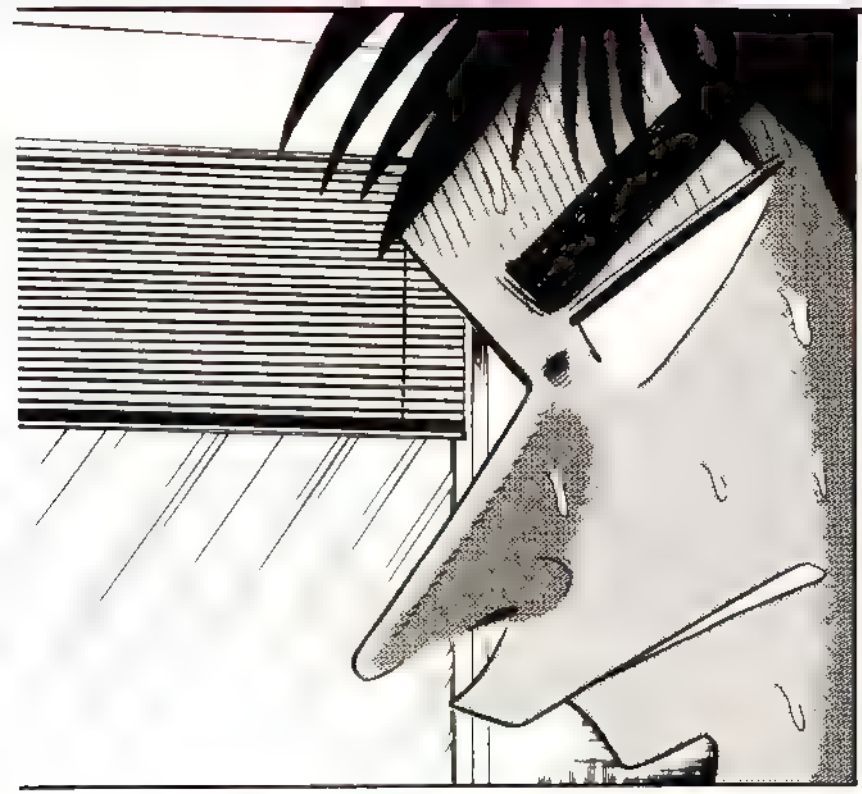
BUT IF I LOSE
I'LL BE FORCED TO LABOUR AT SOMEWHERE FOR 1-2 YEARS...?
IF I WIN MY DEBT WILL BE CANCELLED ...

...
I CAN'T RETURN TO THIS WORLD...

.....

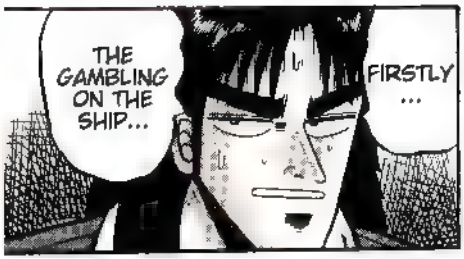
.....

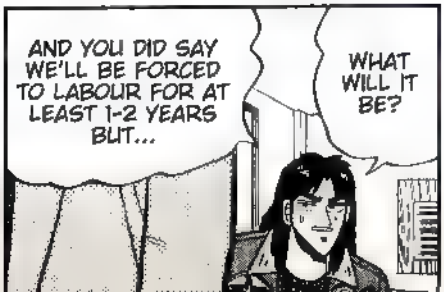
WHAT SHOULD I DO...?



WHAT WILL YOU DO, KAIJI-KUN
FUFU ...
...
HAVE YOU DECIDED?

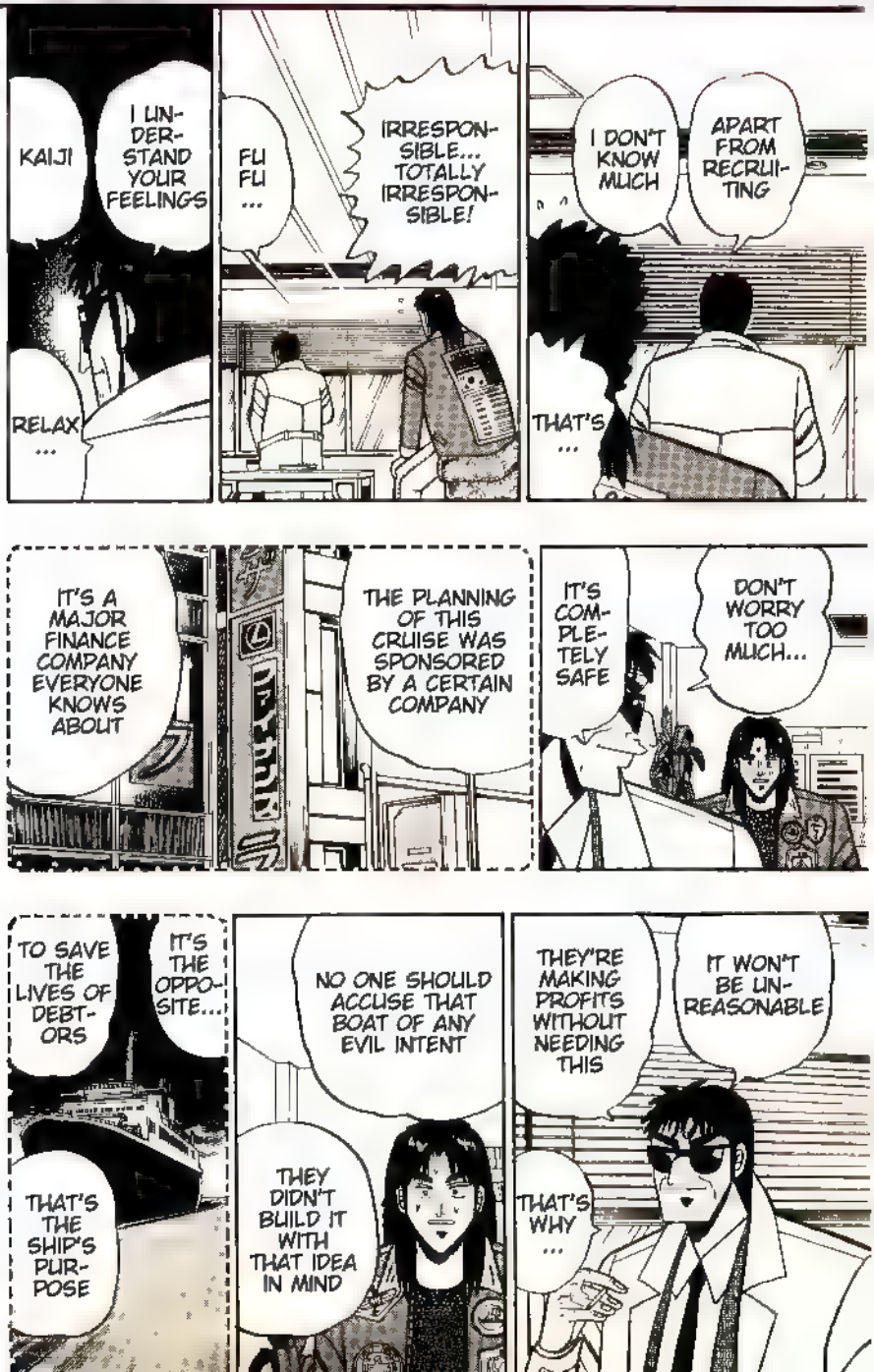
CHAPTER 2: CROSSROADS
第2話「岐路」



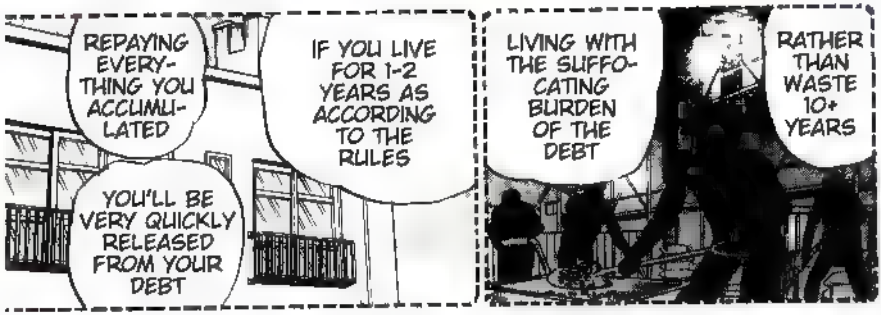


THOSE TWO QUESTIONS
BUT I'M SORRY
I UNDERSTAND THAT FEELING
YOU ARE REALLY WORRIED
I SEE...
ANSWER EITHER ONE
I CAN'T
FUFU...
HAA ...?
RANGE FROM THOSE WHO ENTERED MONTHS AGO
THE CRUISE'S PARTICIPANTS
TO THOSE WHO ENTERED A FEW WEEKS AGO
TO BE FAIR TO THE PARTICIPANTS
THE FIRST QUESTION ABOUT THE SHIP
I CAN'T ANSWER IT
YOU CAN'T ANSWER!?
THAT'S...
LISTEN!

THEY'LL USE VARIOUS SCHEMES...
AND WHILE ON THAT SHIP
RIGHT?
THOSE WHO DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE EARLIER WILL HAVE AN AD-VANTAGE
IF THEY KNEW WHAT KIND OF GAMBLING WE'D BE DOING BEFOREHAND
WHEN YOU LOSE...
THEN ...
I CANNOT SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE GAMBLING UNTIL YOU GET ON THE SHIP
WE SHOULD AVOID THAT KIND OF UN-FAIRNESS
YEAH...
YOU DON'T KNOW...?
TO BE HONEST I DON'T KNOW EITHER...
HAA ...?
... HOW SHO-ULD I PUT IT
ABOUT THAT


KAIJI
I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS
RELAX ...
FU FU ...
IRRESPONSIBLE... TOTALLY IRRESPONSIBLE!
I DON'T KNOW MUCH
APART FROM RECRUITING
THAT'S ...
IT'S A MAJOR FINANCE COMPANY EVERYONE KNOWS ABOUT
THE PLANNING OF THIS CRUISE WAS SPONSORED BY A CERTAIN COMPANY
IT'S COMPLETELY SAFE
DON'T WORRY TOO MUCH...
TO SAVE THE LIVES OF DEBTORS
IT'S THE OPPOSITE...
THAT'S THE SHIP'S PURPOSE
NO ONE SHOULD ACCUSE THAT BOAT OF ANY EVIL INTENT
THEY DIDN'T BUILD IT WITH THAT IDEA IN MIND
THEY'RE MAKING PROFITS WITHOUT NEEDING THIS
IT WON'T BE UNREASONABLE
THAT'S WHY ...

THAT WAY YOU'RE COMPLETELY SAVED
IN THE CASE YOU LOSE
YOUR DEBT IS CLEA-RED
IF YOU WIN ON THAT ONE-NIGHT CRUISE
YEP
SAVE...?


REPAYING EVERY-THING YOU ACCUMU-LATED
YOU'LL BE VERY QUICKLY RELEASED FROM YOUR DEBT
IF YOU LIVE FOR 1-2 YEARS AS ACCORDING TO THE RULES
LIVING WITH THE SUFFO-CATING BURDEN OF THE DEBT
RATHER THAN WASTE 10+ YEARS

TO USE A LITTLE SOPHISM
YOU ARE DEFINITELY PROFITING FROM IT
THAT KIND OF ROPE
NATURA-LLY...
HAA...?
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY OUT
FOR YOUTHS LOOKING AT THE FUTURE

THEY USUALLY BORROWED MILLIONS WHILE YOUNG
A BUNCH OF FOOLS
WE'RE PROFESS-IONAL DEBT COLLECTORS
JUST NOW ...
THE PEOPLE WE COLLECT FROM...
YOUR EXPEN-SES WILL BECOME RIDICU-LOUS
YOU CAN'T GO ON LIVING IN THE DARKNESS FOREVER
THE PAYMENT BECOMES MORE AND MORE ABNORMAL
AS TIME GOES ON
INSTEAD OF HUNTING A PERSON DOWN FOR PAYMENT
IN SHORT, THE DEBTORS DECREASE
HE GAM-BLES ...
AND IN THE END THE UNLUCKY ONES HAVE THEIR DEBTS INCREASED...
AND THAT'S THE SHIP...
TO RISE IN THE WORLD
IT'S NOT EFFICIENT
THOSE WHO ARE CLEVER-ER... WOULD THINK OF WHAT NOBODY HAD BEFORE

YOU CAN'T COPE WITH THE LIVING EXPENSES
IT'LL BECOME A CHASE BETWEEN THE DEBTORS AND THE COLLECTORS
IF SO YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GET ANYTHING BACK
YOU CAN STAY TRAPPED AND PAY THE INTEREST RATE...
YOU ARE TRAPPED
IT'S SAD BUT LOOK AT IT THIS WAY
...
THAT'S ALREADY SUFFICIENT MERIT
ONLY THEN WILL IT TAKE SHAPE
WHEN THE COLLECTION DATE COMES
AND CREATED THE GAMBLING ON THE SHIP WITH THAT IN MIND
THEY WON'T TAKE A SINGLE CENT
THIS ISN'T A "YOU" VS "DEALER" TYPE OF GAMBLING...
UNLIKE ORDINARY CASINOES
THE CRUISE BY NATURE IS ALTRUISTIC
THAT'S WHY IT'S REVERSE
THE SPONSORS AREN'T PLANNING ANYTHING ON THE SHIP

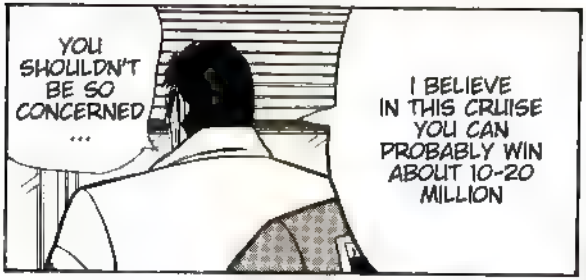
EVERY TIME ABOUT HALF OF THEM RETURN ...
AND THE RESULT
AA...
THE PARTI-CIPANTS ...?
IT'S THE PARTICIPANTS WHO FIGHT WITH EACH OTHER TO THE END...
IT'S GOOD
YEP
HALF?
AND ONLY 20% WOULD LEAVE THE BOAT
THAT WAY I COULD EXPLOIT MORE MONEY FROM SCUM
I'LL RATHER HAVE A VICIOUS SPONSOR
IF IT WERE ME
... HAA ...
YOU CAN TRUST IT
THIS GAMBLING CRUISE HAS A CLEAR CONSCIENCE
AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THAT

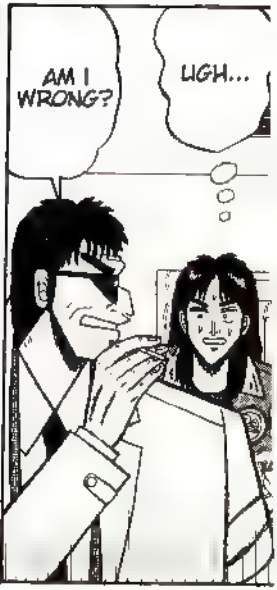
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
...
WELL ...
... IT'S TRUE THAT...
FUFU...
YOU...
KAIJI-KUN
TO BE ABLE TO TAKE A SHOT AT THIS CRUISE
I THINK YOU'RE VERY LUCKY FOR THAT
LUCKY?
YES
AREN'T YOU FEELING SHITTY EVERYDAY AND NOW?
USE-LESS, DECA-DENT, UNPRO-DUCTIVE
EH?
WELL... .....
RIGHT?

LET ME TELL YOU
I DON'T KNOW...
NO...
HAA ...?
DO YOU KNOW WHY YOU FEEL THAT WAY NOW?
IT'S BECAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE MONEY!
THERE'S A FOG HANG-ING AROUND YOUR HEAD.
YOU CAN'T GET ANY MONEY, THAT'S WHY EVERY DAY SEEMS UNREAL
YES
MONEY ...?
...
NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO THROW THE BALL
IF IT WERE 100M HIGH
NO?
EVERYONE CAN PRACTISE SHOOTING
AT THE RIGHT HEIGHT
IT'S LIKE A BASKET-BALL GOAL

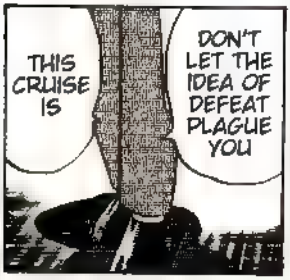
YOU CAN'T REACH THEM...
ALL OF THEM ARE SHIELDED BEHIND A DISPLAY WINDOW
THAT STRESS OF NOT BEING ABLE TO BUY THEM
YOU'RE FED UP WITH TRYING
YOU CAN'T REACH THE GOAL
EVERYDAY... YOU "LOOK" AT VARIOUS THINGS
RIGHT NOW YOU ARE JUST LIKE THAT!
...
WERE MESSING WITH IMPORTED CARS
YOU
THOSE FEELINGS ARE DIRECTLY KILLING YOU
YOU'RE ABSORB-ING THAT NEGATI-VITY
10 MILLION WITH YOU
WOULD YOU HAVE DONE THAT IF RIGHT NOW YOU HAD
YOU GIVE UP, AND IN THE END...
YOU CAN'T THINK OF IT AS YOUR OWN...
YOU RETURN A PETTY FAVOR
THAT KIND OF BEHAV-IOUR IS TYPICAL...
WHEN YOU SEE A BENZ YOU WANT IT

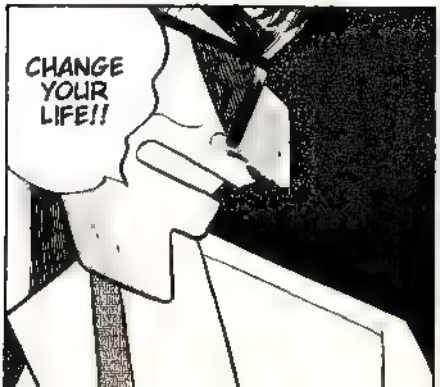
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE DONE SUCH PRANKS!


YOU SHOULDN'T BE SO CONCERNED ...
I BELIEVE IN THIS CRUISE YOU CAN PROBABLY WIN ABOUT 10-20 MILLION

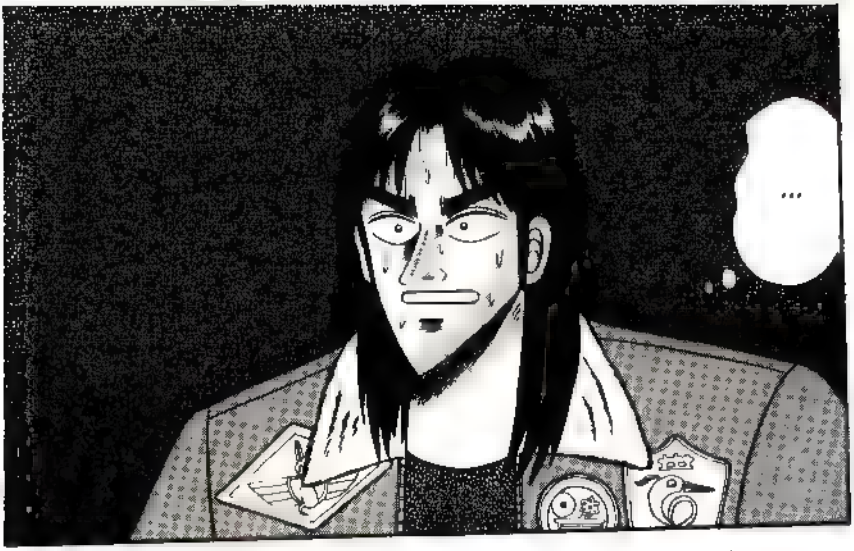

AM I WRONG?
UGH...

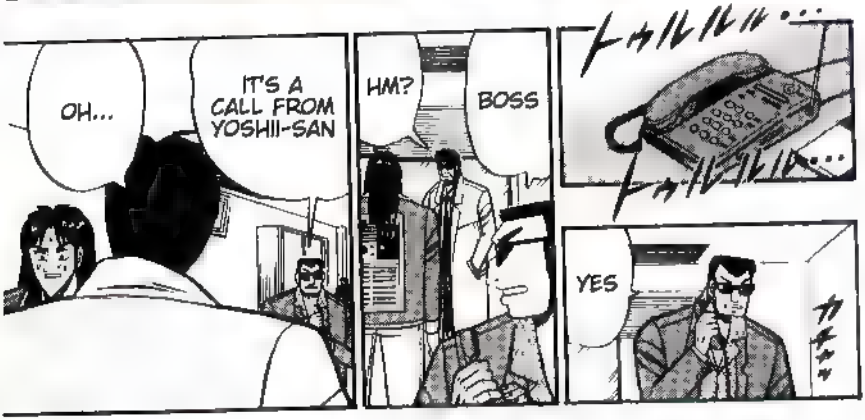
A VERY GOOD CHANCE
TO HELP GET YOU OUT OF YOUR SLUMP


THIS CRUISE IS
DON'T LET THE IDEA OF DEFEAT PLAGUE YOU


CHANGE YOUR LIFE!!

WIN AND GET SOME BIG MONEY!
WIN, KAIJI!


...


OH...
IT'S A CALL FROM YOSHII-SAN
HM?
BOSS
トゥルルル...
トゥルルル...
YES
カチャ

BUT ...
I DON'T TRUST IT
A YAKUZA'S WORDS
...
ス...

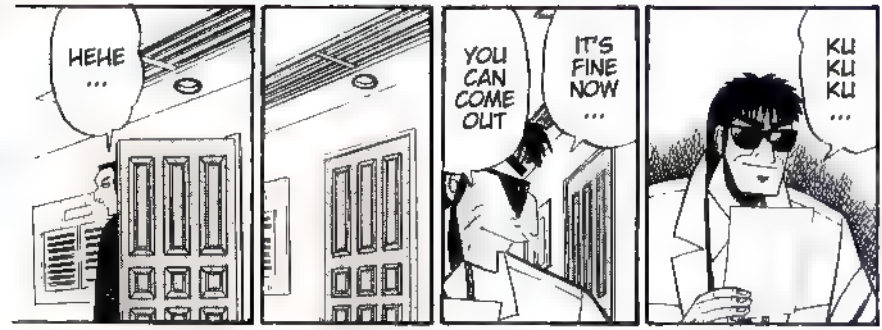
THAT MAN SAID THE TRUTH
YES ...
YES ...
YES
I GOT IT...
BYE
HOW DO I PUT IT...
I REALLY...
I NEED TO FOCUS ...
I'M NOT THE ONLY ADVERT-ISER
THE SEATS FOR THIS CRUISE ...
DECIDE QUICKLY ...
WHAT?
THERE'RE ONLY TWO SEATS LEFT
....
KAIJI-KUN...

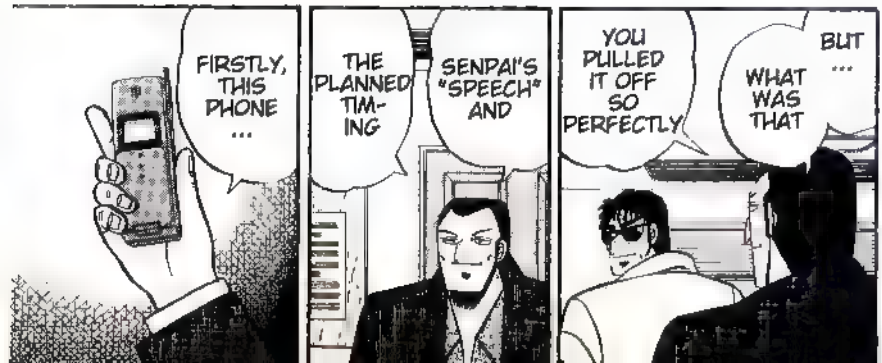
HELLO, ENDOU FINANCE
TWO LEFT?
TWO LEFT ...??
ZAWA...
HAA...?
I'M SORRY ...
KAIJI
I...
IT MEANS I HAVE TO DECIDE QUICKLY
EEHH?
THERE ARE NONE LEFT...

TH-
THAT ...
HM?
PLEASE WAIT...!
W-WAIT
IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR HESITATING SO LONG...
IT CAN'T BE HELPED
CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT ...?
WELL ... THAT'S ...
I'D SAY ...
...
YOU WANT TO JOIN...?
WHAT?
...

...
ピ
ピ
ピ
I'LL TRY TALK-ING
WAIT A SEC
SERIO-USLY
PLEASE!
PL...
...
YES...
CAN WE MAKE AN EXCEPTION
ACTUA-LLY...
THIS IS ENDOU ...
AH... YOSHII-SAN
チニ...
.....
.....
.....
.....

SAFE ...
REALLY?
THEY LET ME INCREASE THE VACANCIES BY ONE
YOU GOT IN!
THE FORM
OI
LET'S DO THIS QUICKLY ...
THEN
NOW...
KAIJI SIGNED!
AND MAKE A THUMB-PRINT HERE
WRITE YOUR NAME


HEHE ...
YOU CAN COME OUT
IT'S FINE NOW ...
KU KU KU ...


FIRSTLY, THIS PHONE ...
THE PLANNED TIM-ING
SENPAI'S "SPEECH" AND
YOU PULLED IT OFF SO PERFECTLY
WHAT WAS THAT
BUT ...

USING THE PHONE TO MAKE IT LOOK IN DEMAND
ENTICING CUSTOMERS WITH THE OBJECT IN FRONT OF THEM
DEPEN-DING ON THE CASE ...
IT'S A METHOD USED BY ESTATE AGENTS
FUFU ...
IT CAN BE APPLIED TO ANY-THING IN LIFE...
IN THIS CASE IT'S THE CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF CRUISE SEATS
THEY'LL CHASE AFTER THE CONTR-ACT
BY FAKING A BUYER
HOW THE HELL CAN IT BE IN POPULAR DEMAND!
THAT KIND OF STRANGE CRUISE
IDIOT
FUFU...
KU KU KU ...
FUFU ...
RIGHT ...

THOSE HOTHEADED FOOLS ARE NOTHING BUT A BIG HELP
RECENTLY THE BRATS HAVE BEEN REALLY CAUTIOUS...
ANYWAY, WE CAN RELAX NOW
WE'VE FINALLY REACHED OUR QUOTA OF 10 PEOPLE
OO ...
HERE YOU GO
HMM?
BUT THIS IS A LITTLE SADDENING ...
YEAH
IT WAS SURE DIFFI-CULT...
LIKE DURING THE FAKE CALL
WHEN I WAS SELLING THE CRUISE JUST NOW
THAT'S RIGHT
IT'S COMP-LETELY IMPOS-SIBLE
I'D SAY ...
NO MATTER WHAT HE DOES
HE CAN'T GET OFF THE SHIP
KU KU KU ...
ABOUT THAT GUY
I LEARNT QUITE A BIT
AT THAT TIME ...

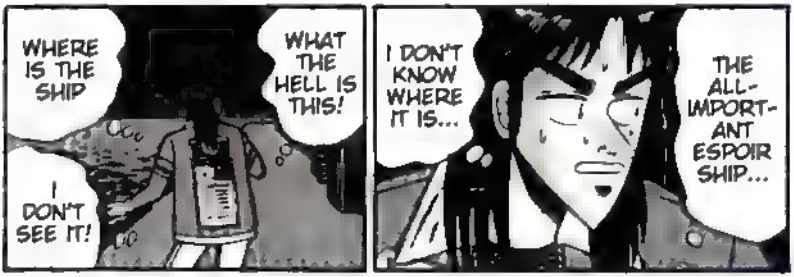
BECAUSE HE'S THAT SORT OF IDIOT
HE CAN'T HELP BUT BE THE YAKUZA'S TARGET
KU KU KU ...
GOOD MAN ...?
I THINK HE'S A "GOOD MAN" ...
I SURE AIN'T A "GOOD MAN"!!
PREY ...
THEY ARE THE BEST
第2話 終
CHAPTER 2 END...
KU KU KU ...
THE CRUISE SURE SOUNDS SWEET ...
TO THE FOOLS, THAT IS

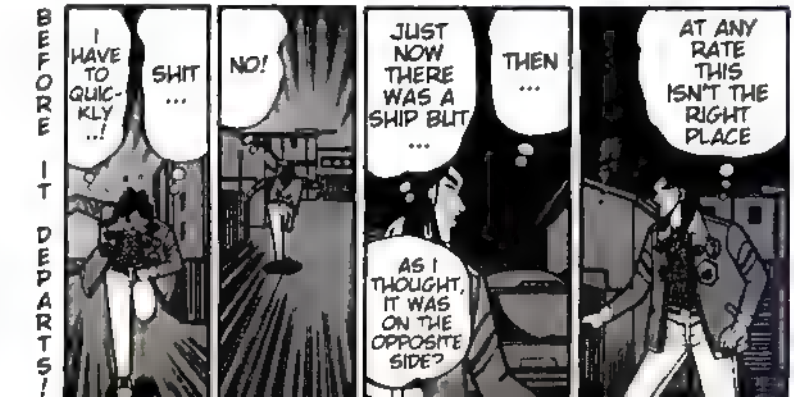
THE SEA

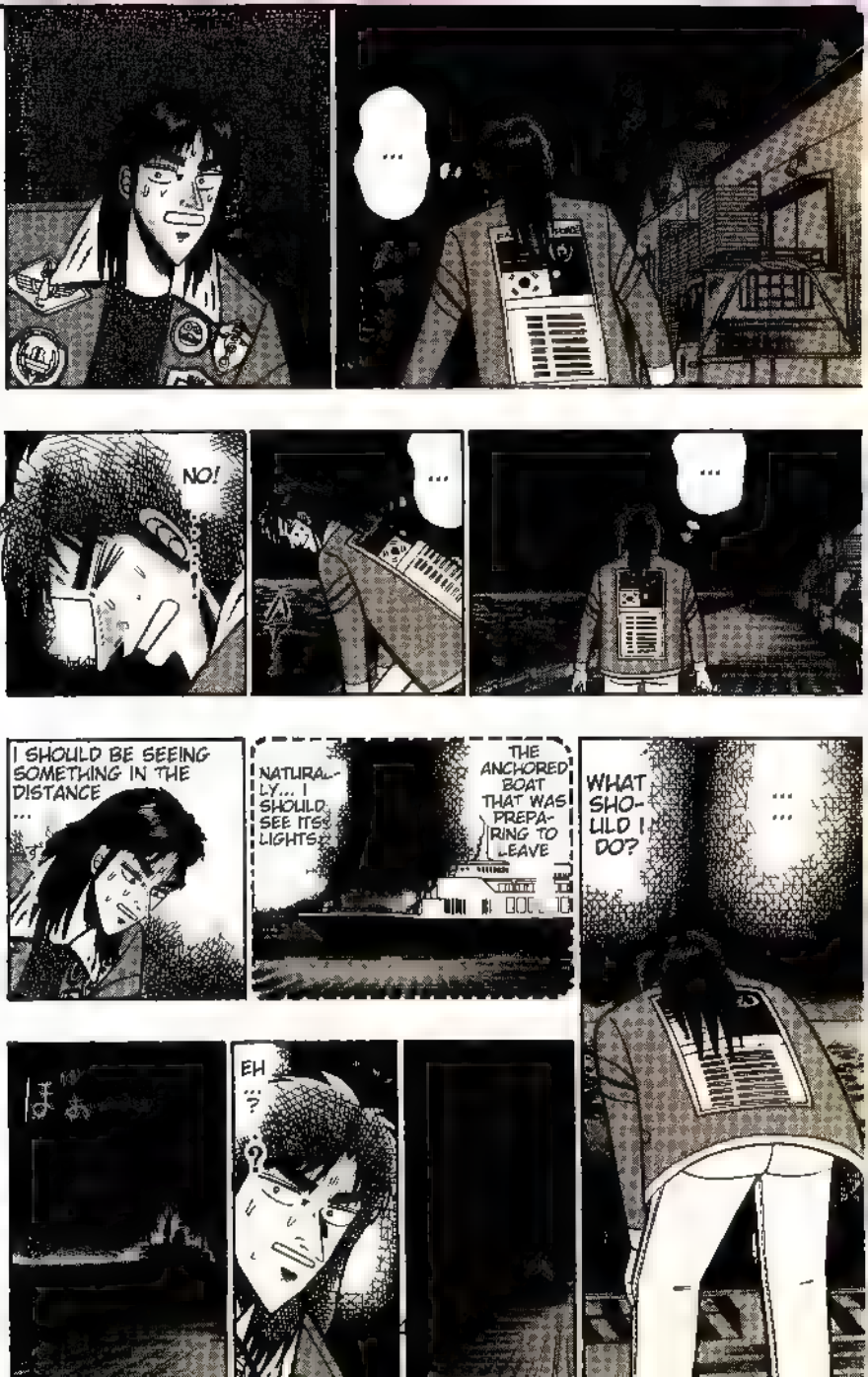
MARCH 4 1996

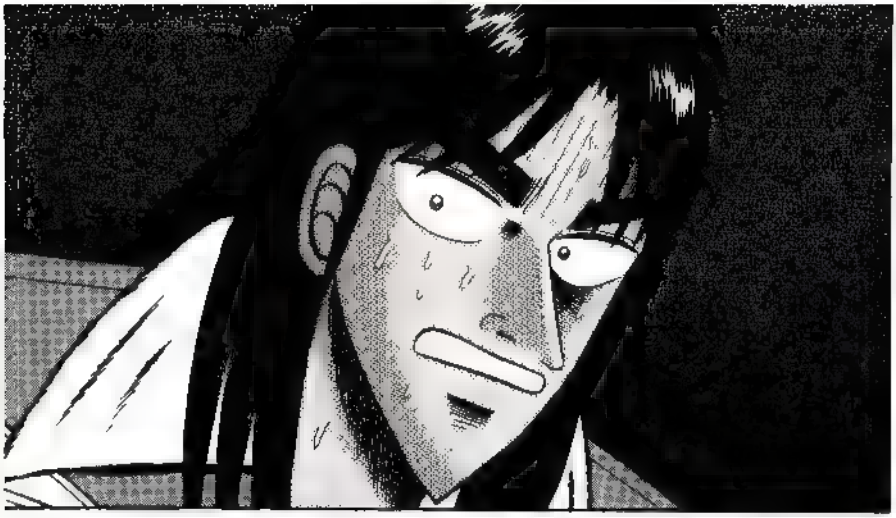
THIS IS BAD
WOULD BE SUFFI- CIENT BUT

CHAPTER 3: PITCH DARKNESS
第3話「漆黒」


WHERE IS THE SHIP
I DON'T SEE IT!
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS!
I DON'T KNOW WHERE IT IS...
THE ALL-IMPORT-ANT ESPOIR SHIP...


BEFORE IT DEPARTS!
I HAVE TO QUIC-KLY ...!
SHIT ...
NO!
JUST NOW THERE WAS A SHIP BUT ...
THEN ...
AS I THOUGHT, IT WAS ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE?
AT ANY RATE THIS ISN'T THE RIGHT PLACE

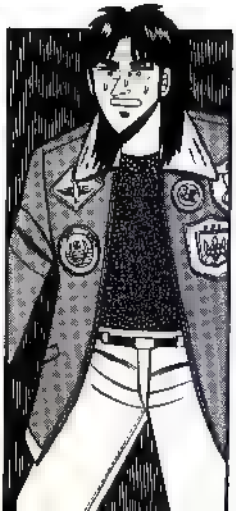

...
NO!
...
...
I SHOULD BE SEEING SOMETHING IN THE DISTANCE ...
NATURALLY... I SHOULD SEE ITS LIGHTS...
THE ANCHORED BOAT THAT WAS PREPARING TO LEAVE
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
...
...
EH ...?

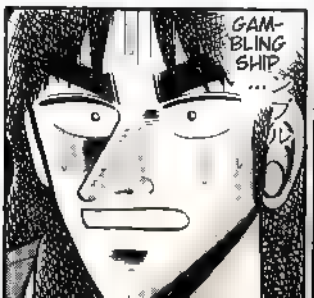


COULD IT BE...?

COULD IT BE?

UU.....!



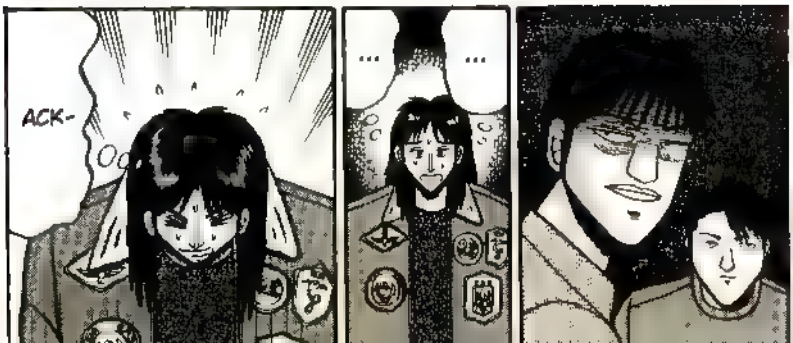


ESPOIR?

EH...?
YES!
YE...
EXCUSE ME...
HA...?
ITOU... ITOU KAIJI, IS IT?
YES
THIS IS THE ESPOIR ...?
THAT'S RIGHT, THAT'S RIGHT!
AH... YES...
IT'S ME
A..!
A...

FOR A MOMENT I WONDERED WHAT I SHOULD DO...
NO... I COULDN'T SEE VERY CLEARLY...
HOORAY!!!
...
FU FU ...
AND I DIDN'T CHANCE UPON ANY OTHER PASSEN-GERS...
THERE WEREN'T ANY LIGHTS ...
A LOT OF PEOPLE HERE LOSE THEIR WAY AND START THINK-ING WILDLY...
THANK YOU!
I STILL MADE IT ON TIME ...
IT WASN'T GREAT BUT
NO NO
WE APOLOGISE
KAIJI-SAMA WOULDN'T HAVE MET WITH ANY OF THE OTHER PARTICI-PANTS
IN CASE THAT DIDN'T WORK ...
THAT WAY WE COULD RECEIVE OVER A HUNDRED PEOPLE
AND THAT'S WHY...
WE SHIFTED EACH PARTI-CIPANT'S TIME OF ARRIVAL A LITTLE...
IF WE STAND OUT TOO MUCH WE MIGHT BE FORCED TO CANCEL EVERY-THING
BEC-AUSE OF THAT
THIS IS AN ILLEGAL SHIP AFTER ALL

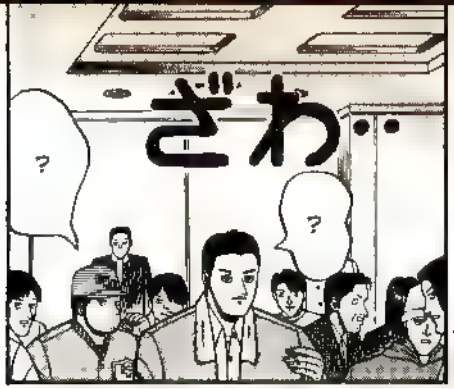
EH...?
HERE, KAIJI
BUT PLEASE EXCUSE US
I SEE ...
HAA ...
WE TOOK DOWN THE SHIP LIGHTS FOR THE SAME REASON
THEY PERFORMED A THUMB-PRINT CHECK
AND AFTER THAT
WHEN THAT WAS FINI-SHED
OF COURSE, THOSE ITEMS WERE PROHI-BITED
TO ENSURE THAT HE WASN'T CARRYING WEAPONS, DANGEROUS OBJECTS OR COMMUNICATION DEVICES
FIRST HAD A BODY CHECK
PLEASE
HMMM
...
...
KAIJI-SAMA IS THIS CRUISE'S LAST PASSEN-GER
11:45
PLEASE COME WITH US
?
BOA-RDING

...
...
...
ジロッ

ACK-
...
...

むわっ

MUWA...

WELL ...
BUT
THINKING ABOUT IT...
HAVE A NEGATIVE AURA ...
EVERY ONE OF THEM
WHAT THE HELL ...
THESE PEOPLE ...
ガシャーガシャ..
AND THUS GATHERED HERE
THEY WERE TIRED OF BEING UNABLE TO PAY THEIR DEBTS
IT ISN'T ABSURD ...


ざわ
?
?

ZAWA...

YOU HAVE WAITED FOR LONG

RIGHT NOW ALL THE REMAINING PARTICIPANTS ARE GATHERED

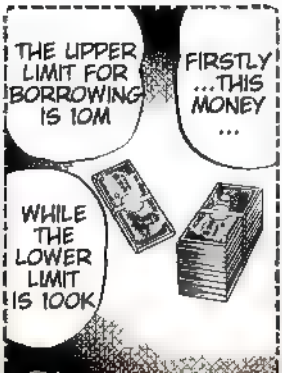
A FEW OF THEM
HAD CANC-ELLED THEIR APPO-INT-MENT

THE THIRD "CREATIVE CRUISE"
WILL SOON DEPART
... AND
BE-FORE THAT ...

.....
...?
WE'VE DECIDED THAT WE'D LIKE YOU TO TAKE SOME-THING
FIRSTLY EVERY-ONE
IS PENNILESS, SO
IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT EVERYONE
WITH THIS YOU CAN CARRY OUT
THE GAMBLING WITH SUFFICIENT FUNDS
WE'VE DECIDED TO OFFER YOU ALL SOME-THING
PLEASE USE THIS LOAN OF FUNDS FOR LATER
AND PREPARED SOME FUNDS
WE HAVE TAKEN MEASURES FOR YOUR CONVE-NIENCE

ZAWA...

ZAWA ZAWA ZAWA



YOU'LL RECEIVE 5M
AND...
THOSE ABOVE 30
THOSE WHO ARE OF OLD AGE PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND
ABOUT YOUR RESCUE
AND THEN, THE MAIN POINT OF CRUISE
THIS CRUISE LASTS 4 HOURS SO...
HAS A COMPOUND INTEREST OF 1.5% EVERY 10 MINUTES
THE LOANED MONEY
40%...?
...
IT'S A VERY REASONABLE INTEREST RATE
IT'D BE SPLENDID IF YOU COULD RETURN IT
IF IT PROGRESSES AS PLANNED
YOUR LOAN WILL INCREASE BY 40%

ZAWA.. ZAWA..

ZAWA... ZAWA...

WHAT THE FUUUCK!
IT'S NOT RIDICULOUS
THIS IS A VERY BENEFICIAL INTEREST RATE
WE'LL KILL YOU...! YOU SHIT!
YOU'RE FUCKING TAKING ADVANTAGE OF US!!
THAT'S RIGHT !!
NO NO
WHAT'S WITH THE 40% UP...!
WH-WHAT THE HELL!!

IT'S NOT RIDIC-ULOUS
SCOUN-DREL!
WE'LL KILL YOU FUCKING WOLF...!
KU KU KU ...
YOU JUST WANT EXCESS PROFITS!
WHERE IN THE WORLD CAN YOU HEAR OF A 10 MINUTE INTEREST RATE!
THIS IS AN UNHEARD-OF CHANCE
WE IDEALLY WANT EVERYTHING TO BE RETURNED
WE'RE NOT SCOUN-DRELS
WE DESIGNED THIS CRUISE TO SAVE YOU DEBTORS
IT'S A VERY GREAT INTEREST RATE
40% UP IS REASON-ABLE
YOU'LL RELAX IF YOU THINK ABOUT THIS RARE CHANCE
YOU CAN RETURN THE 40% INCREASE
第3話 終
CHAPTER 3 END...

第4話「出航」

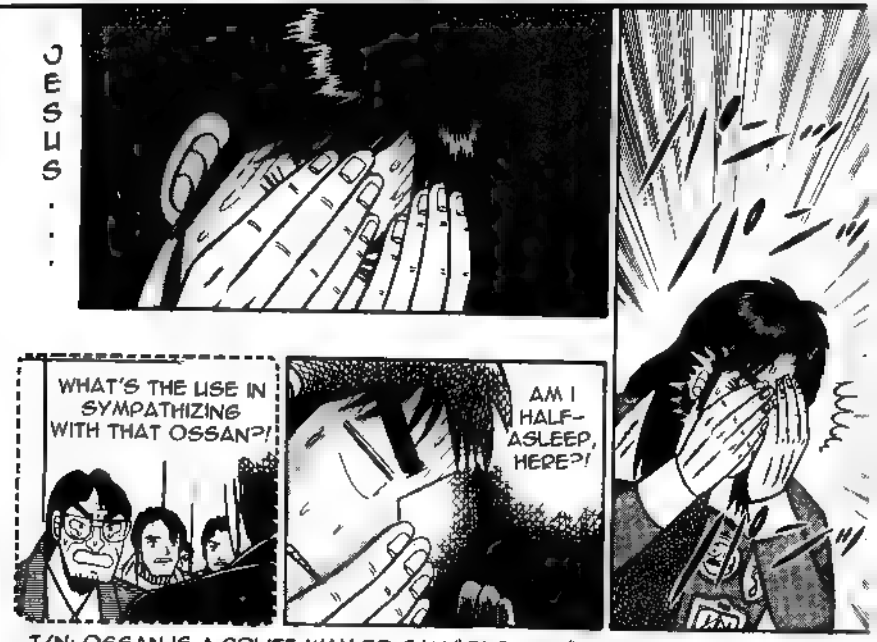
CHAPTER 4 - VOYAGE

CUT THE BULL CRAP!!
JUST SHUT UP... SHUT UP!!!
I'D SAY THIS IS A PERFECTLY MORAL DECISION.
THIS 40% INTEREST RATE IS EXTREMELY REASONABLE!
YOU STILL WANT MORE FROM US?!
WE'RE ALL UP TO OUR NECKS IN DEBT, HERE, AND YET...
YOU'RE STILL TAKING OUR MONEY?!
YOU BASTARDS!!
DO YOU WANT US TO LEAVE?!
ガーグッ...
LOOK AWAY FROM YOUR OWN DAMN WALLETS FOR ONE SECOND...!!
ガクッ...
CAN'T YOU SEE THAT?!
IT'S JUST NOT RIGHT!!!
KHU-KU-KU
IF YOU KEEP SAYING SHIT LIKE THAT, WE'LL JUST GET OFF THIS SHIP!!
ガクッ

BUT THAT OPTION IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO YOU.
WHO KNOWS HOW LONG YOU'LL HAVE TO WORK TO PAY OFF YOUR MASSIVE DEBT ... PERHAPS 10 TO 20 YEARS.
WE WILL BE UNABLE TO OBJECT
BUT, WHEN YOU DO, PLEASE KINDLY BEAR IN MIND ...
YOU MAY LEAVE ...
WE SHAN'T STOP YOU.
FEEL FREE.
THE DOOR IS OVER THERE
UGH ...
YOU MAY LEAVE NOW IF YOU SO DESIRE.
ざわ..
URGH ...
ざわ..
ざわ..
WE DON'T HAVE ANY OTHER CHOICE
THE ONLY REASON WE'RE EVEN HERE, ON THIS SHIP, IS BECAUSE
EXPLOITING LOSERS FOR CHEAP CASH
THEY'RE JUST TAKING ADVANTAGE OF US
BASTARD
.....

D... DAM - MIT
.....
SO, WHAT WILL IT BE, THEN, ISHIDA - SAMA?
WHEN YOU DIE, YOU'RE GOING STRAIGHT TO HELL!
AUGH ...
DAMN ...
DAM - MIT ...
G
.....
YOSHIDA, 1 MILLION!
AND YOU, SIR?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SIR.
GIMME THE MILLION!! YOU FUCKING CHEAPSKATES !!!
OF COURSE EVERY - ONE WILL GO FOR THE MINIMUM!
THERE'S NO NEED TO ASK.
KH ...
SAWAMURA, 1 MIL...!
WHAT'S THE NEED TO EVEN GO INTO THIS MUCH TROUBLE...
AM I RIGHT?
NAKANE, 1 MILLION ...

SHEESH, YOU GUYS
YOU REALLY ARE MORONS!
YOU'RE DOING IT ALL WRONG!
ガ!
KHU-HU HU
THIS IS SO STUPID
AND FURTHERMORE, WHO WOULD WANT TO TACK ON EVEN MORE TO THEIR DEBT WITH THAT HUGE INTEREST RATE?!
GOING FOR A WALK IN THE PARK?
WHAT DO YOU THINK WE'RE DOING, HERE?
GIMME THE UPPER LIMIT.
FUNAI, HERE.
AH ...?!
ざわ..
ざわ..
ざわ..
URGH ...!

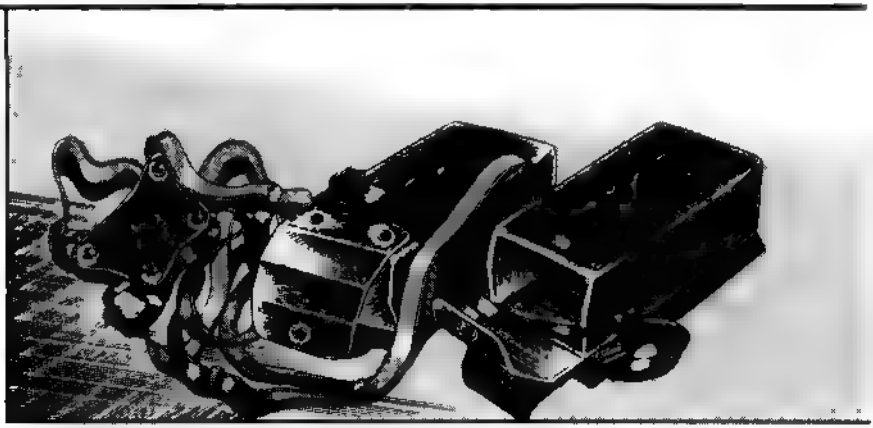


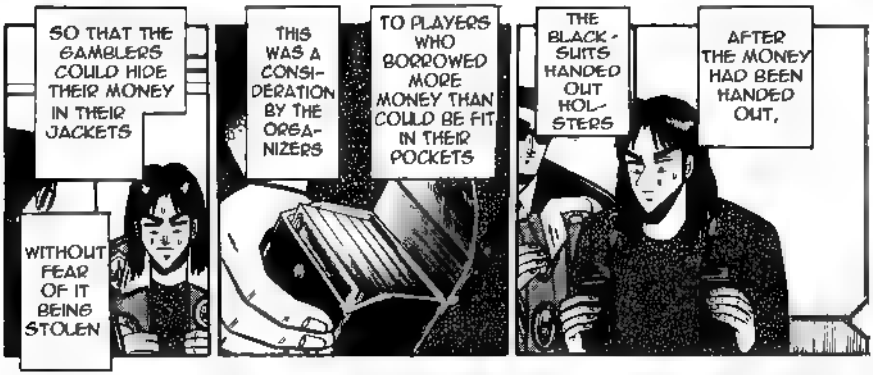
T/N: OSSAN IS A POLITE WAY TO SAY "OLD MAN"

I CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE THIS ONE!
I SHOULD THINK OF NOTHING BUT WINNING! RIGHT NOW
PUT THAT ASIDE FOR NOW!
THE ORGA-NIZERS ARE GREEDY, BUT

THEY HAVEN'T EVEN SAID WHAT WE'RE DOING, YET!
THINKING ABOUT IT A BIT MORE
THAT GUY . FUNAI, WAS IT? WELL, HE'S GOT THE RIGHT IDEA.
I NEED TO PULL THROUGH ON THIS, BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY!
THIS IS A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME CHANCE!

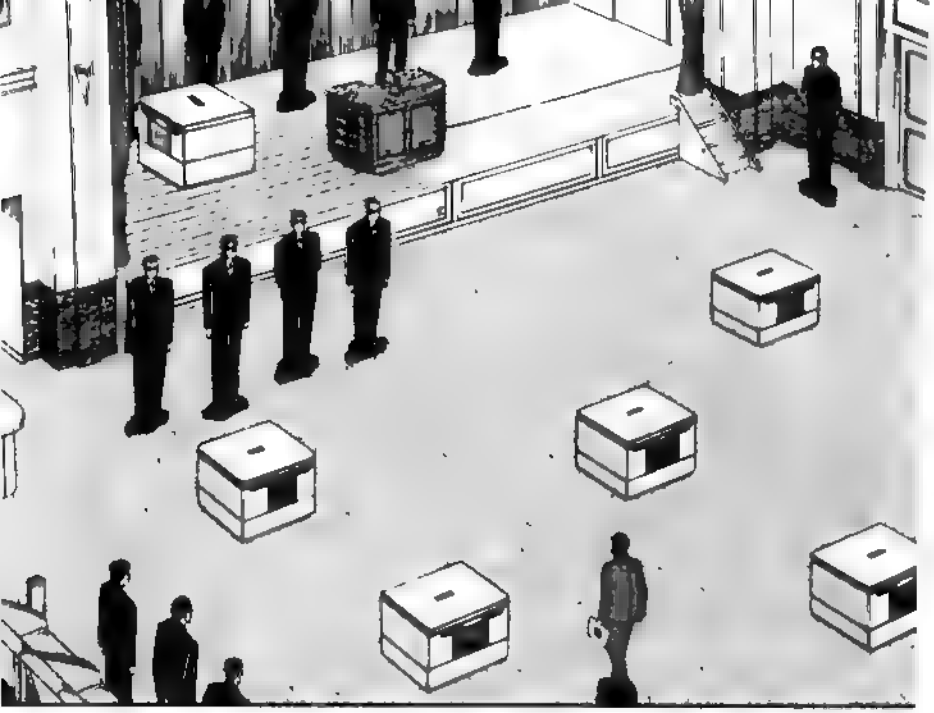
MONEY IS LIFE FOR GAMBLERS LIKE MYSELF!
EVEN IF IT ISN'T THAT KIND OF THING,
FAKE
A FORCE!
HAVING MORE MONEY CERTAINLY DOESN'T HURT!
IN GAMES LIKE POKER, YOU CAN CHOOSE HOW MUCH TO BET
ALL THAT MATTERS IS THE HERE AND NOW!
I JUST GOTTA WIN!
I SHOULDN'T BE WASTING TIME THINKING ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING DOWN THE ROAD!
YEAH, THAT'S THE WAY
TEN MILLION!
ITOU KAIJI
THE UPPER LIMIT!
YEAH
NEXT?
SAFE, BUT I'M NOW!
CLOSE THAT WAS
FAR
99999



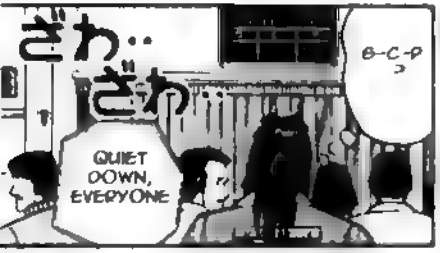

SO THAT THE GAMBLERS COULD HIDE THEIR MONEY IN THEIR JACKETS
WITHOUT FEAR OF IT BEING STOLEN
THIS WAS A CONSI-DERATION BY THE ORGA-NIZERS
TO PLAYERS WHO BORROWED MORE MONEY THAN COULD BE FIT IN THEIR POCKETS
THE BLACK-SUITS HANDED OUT HOL-STERS
AFTER THE MONEY HAD BEEN HANDED OUT,

WERE MADE TO PRESENT THEIR PASS-PORT
AND, JUST FOR CER-TI-FI-CA-TION,
ALONG WITH THAT, THEY WERE GIVEN TWO ENVELOPES LABELED A AND B,
WHICH WERE THEN ATTACHED TO THE LEFT SIDE OF THEIR JACKET
PLAYERS WERE GIVEN SQUARE VELCRO BADGES
THEN, FOR AN UN-KNOWN REA-SON,
ONCE PREPARED, PLAYERS WERE USHERED TO THE MAIN HALL
ガラ..

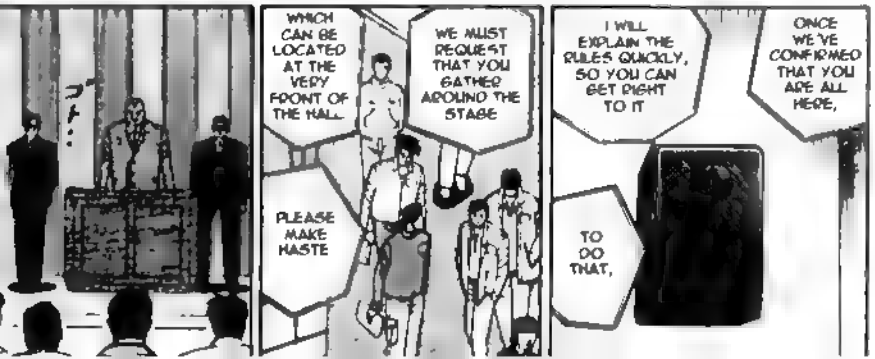
THERE'S NO TURNING BACK...
.....
WE'VE LEFT THE HARBOR...THIS IS IT!
THE SHIP IS MOVING
IT MOVED...!
ざわ..ざわ
A BRIGHTER FUTURE LIES BEYOND THIS ONE GAMBLE
I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST OF LUCK.
PLEASE FOLLOW THEIR INSTRUCTIONS.
AFTER THIS, YOU WILL BE IN THE HANDS OF THOSE IN THE NEXT HALL.
MY PART IN THIS GAMBLE IS OVER AT THIS POINT
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.
AH...!
YOU DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO US.
I HOPE I NEVER SEE YOUR UGLY MUG AGAIN.
ゾロ..ゾロ..
GOOD RIDDANCE
SEE YOU ALL AGAIN.
WELL, UNTIL THEN



ざわ..ざわ..
WHAT A HUGE ROOM ...!
ざわ..

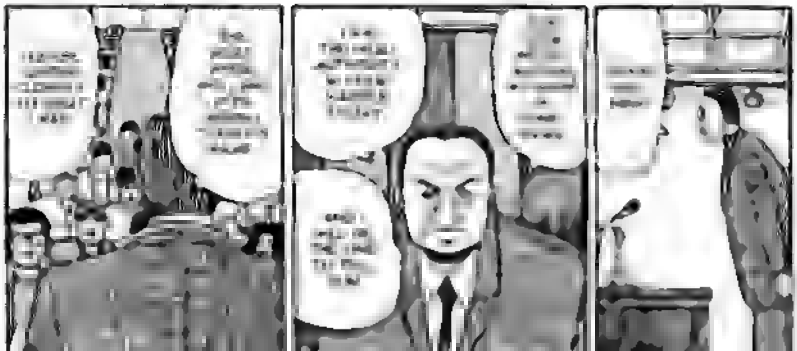

ざわ..ざわ..
B-C-P
QUIET DOWN, EVERYONE

G
C
P
4 12
4 12
4 12


ゴト..
WHICH CAN BE LOCATED AT THE VERY FRONT OF THE HALL.
WE MUST REQUEST THAT YOU GATHER AROUND THE STAGE
PLEASE MAKE HASTE
I WILL EXPLAIN THE RULES QUICKLY, SO YOU CAN GET RIGHT TO IT
ONCE WE'VE CONFIRMED THAT YOU ARE ALL HERE,
TO DO THAT,

WHAT'RE THESE TABLES FOR

ざわざわ

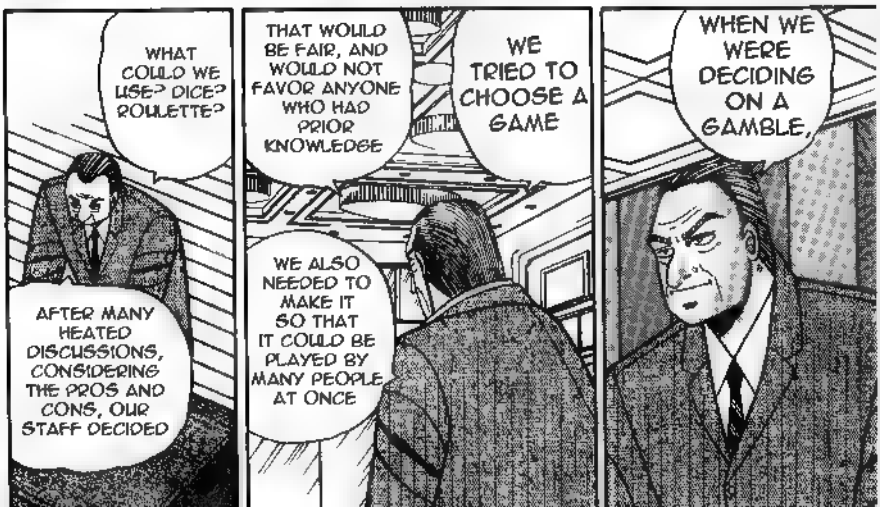


I CAN ONLY SAY THE RULES ONE TIME.
I WILL NOT REPEAT MYSELF EVEN PARTIALLY
SO YOU WILL NEED TO HELP ME
WE DON'T HAVE VERY MUCH TIME BEFORE WE NEED TO START...
THOUGH
I WILL EXPLAIN THE RULES
FOR TONIGHT'S GAMBLE.
NOW, THEN.
AND STILL GIVE YOU THE CRITICAL INFORMATION YOU NEED,
PLEASE LISTEN VERY CLOSE-LY
SO, IN ORDER TO CUT DOWN OUR TIME
EVEN IF THEY ARE AT THE VERY END, OR YOU ARE BRIEF
ALSO, I WILL BE UNABLE TO ANSWER ANY QUES-TIONS,
A
PLEASE BE CAREFUL NOT TO HARM THE CONTENTS OF THE ENVELOPE.
PLEASE LOCATE THE ENVELOPE LABELED "A" THAT WE GAVE YOU,
AND TEAR OFF THE TOP OF THE BAG.
NOW THEN, TO START,
A

ビリ..
ビリ..
ビリ..
ARE THOSE TRUMP CARDS?
WHA-?

ざわ…
ざわ…
HMM-HMM-HMM-HM
ざわ…
ざわ…
ざわ…
URGH
THE CARDS YOU ARE NOW LOOKING AT
WILL BE USED TO PLAY THE GAME
THAT WILL DECIDE YOUR DESTINY
THESE CARDS ARE...
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!

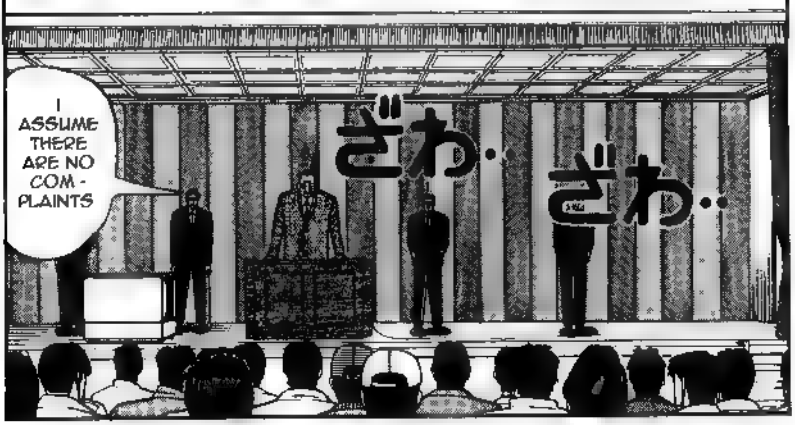
G
C
P
THEY'RE JUST...?!


WHEN WE WERE DECIDING ON A GAMBLE,
WE TRIED TO CHOOSE A GAME
THAT WOULD BE FAIR, AND WOULD NOT FAVOR ANYONE WHO HAD PRIOR KNOWLEDGE
WE ALSO NEEDED TO MAKE IT SO THAT IT COULD BE PLAYED BY MANY PEOPLE AT ONCE
WHAT COULD WE USE? DICE? ROULETTE?
AFTER MANY HEATED DISCUSSIONS, CONSIDERING THE PROS AND CONS, OUR STAFF DECIDED

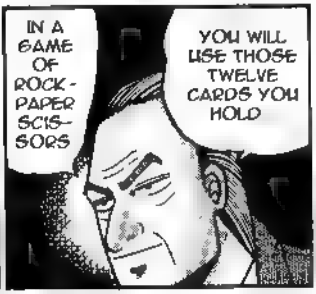
SINCE EVERYONE IN THE WORLD KNOWS HOW TO PLAY THIS GAME,
WHAT COULD BE MORE FAIR AND IMPARTIAL THAN THE GAME YOU HOLD IN YOUR HANDS?
NO ONE IN THIS ROOM IS UNFAMILIAR WITH WHAT THESE CARDS MEAN
YOU CAN VERIFY THIS BY LOOKING AROUND TO SEE YOUR FELLOW PLAYERS
ON THIS GAME.
THERE IS A LIMIT TO HOW MANY TIMES YOU CAN USE EACH OF THE THREE HANDS, ROCK, PAPER, AND SCISSORS
YOU CAN ONLY USE EACH ONE 4 TIMES
HOWEVER, THE GAME IS UNLIKE ANY OTHER GAME OF ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS THAT YOU HAVE EVER PLAYED
WILL HAVE YOUR FATES DECIDED BY THIS SIMPLE GAME.
TONIGHT, EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU
THE PROBABILITY OF SUCCESS IS RARELY EVER JUST 33%.
THE GAME ITSELF IS WHAT WE LIKE TO CALL
DO YOU GET WHAT I'M SAYING?
THE ONLY MOVES YOU WOULD THEN HAVE AFTER THAT WOULD BE SCISSORS AND PAPER
THE GAME YOU WILL BE PLAYING IS UNLIKE ANY GAME OF ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS THAT YOU HAVE EVER PLAYED BEFORE.
I WILL SAY IT ONCE AGAIN
THAT MEANS, IF YOU DECIDE TO PUT DOWN ROCK FOR THE FIRST FOUR GAMES,
YOU CAN NO LONGER USE ROCK FOR THE REST OF THE GAME.

ざわ
ざわ..
ざわ..
RESTRICTED ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS!
I HAD A PREMONITION
SAID THE WORD "RESTRICTED"
AS SOON AS THAT MAN
IN OTHER WORDS...
IT TOLD ME, NOT EVERYTHING IN THIS GAME IS DECIDED BY LUCK!
AND THE INTELLIGENT PEOPLE WHO KNOW WHAT THEY ARE DOING WILL MAKE IT OUT OF HERE WITH A PROFIT.
THE IDIOTS WILL BE THE FIRST ONES OUT.
第4話 終
CHAPTER 4 - END.

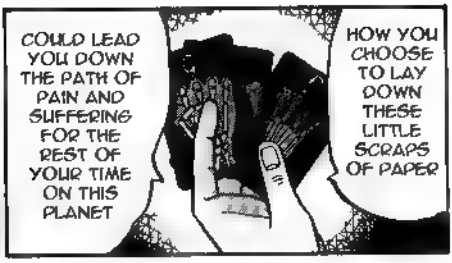
CHAPTER 5 - GAME
第5話「遊戯」


I ASSUME THERE ARE NO COM-PLAINTS
ざわ…
ざわ…

THIS EVE-NING,
THE REST OF YOUR LIVES WILL BE DECIDED
BY THIS ONE GAM-BLE.

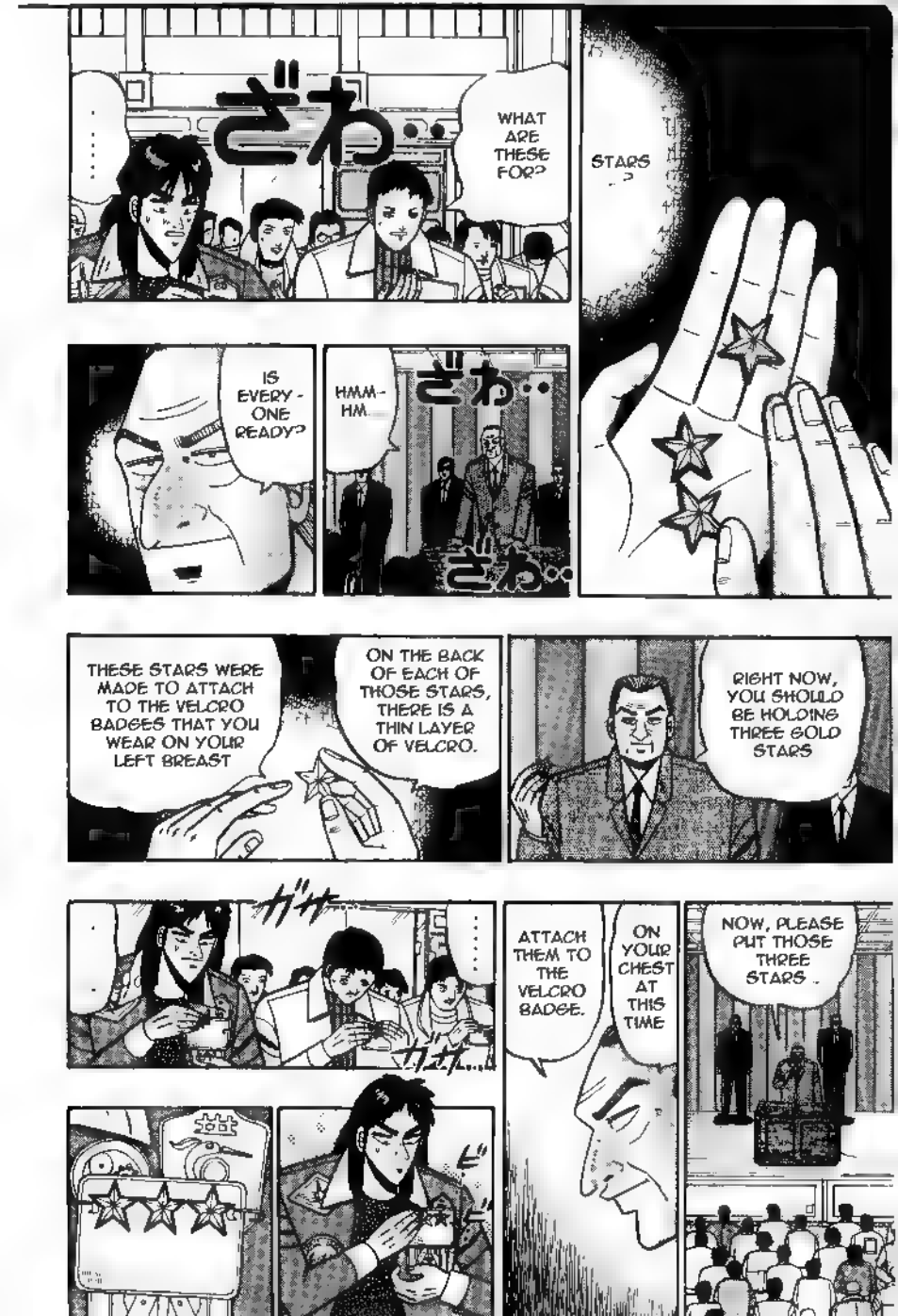

YOU WILL USE THOSE TWELVE CARDS YOU HOLD
IN A GAME OF ROCK-PAPER SCIS-SORS

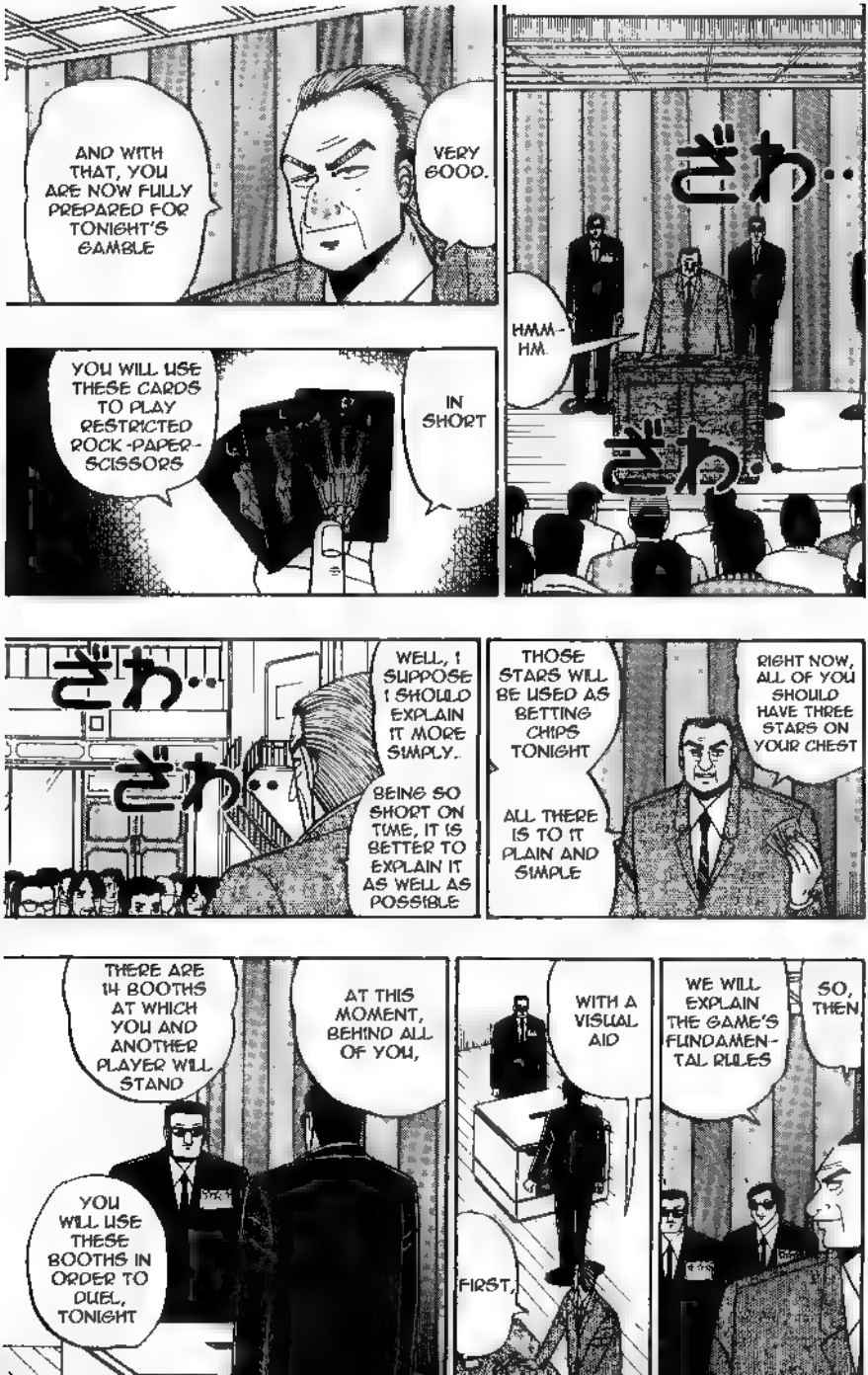
HOWEVER YOU DO SO, YOU MUST PULL THROUGH, SIPHONING ALL OF YOUR GREED AND SELF-AWARENESS
GO ALL OUT, AND TAKE NO PRISO-NERS!


HOW YOU CHOOSE TO LAY DOWN THESE LITTLE SCRAPS OF PAPER
COULD LEAD YOU DOWN THE PATH OF PAIN AND SUFFERING FOR THE REST OF YOUR TIME ON THIS PLANET

YOU MUST DESIRE VICTORY WITH EVERY FIBER OF YOUR BEING
ざわ…
ざわ ざわ…
ざわ…
……

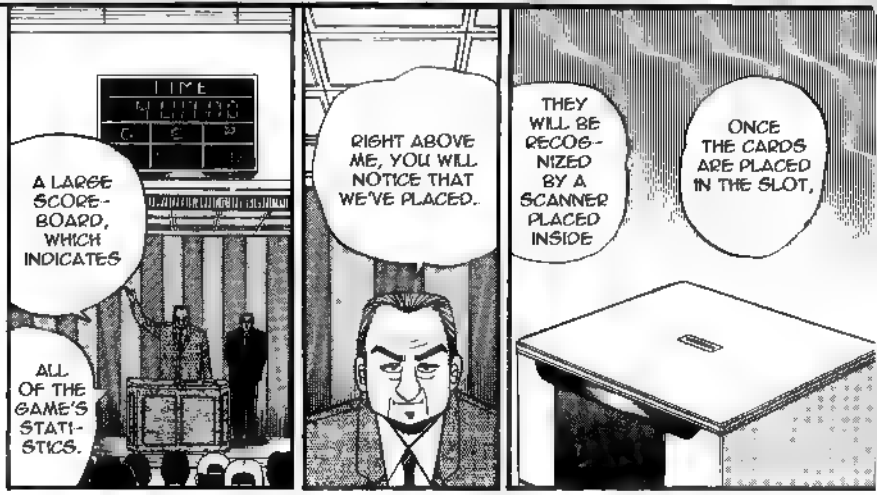
WELL, THEN.
PLEASE OPEN THAT ENVELOPE AT THIS TIME
AS WITH THE PREVIOUS ONE, WHEN YOU ENTERED, YOU WERE HANDED
B
THIS ENVE-LOPE LABELED "B".
PLEASE LOCATE THIS
NEXT,
B
AH
ガサ..
ガサッ...
ビリ..

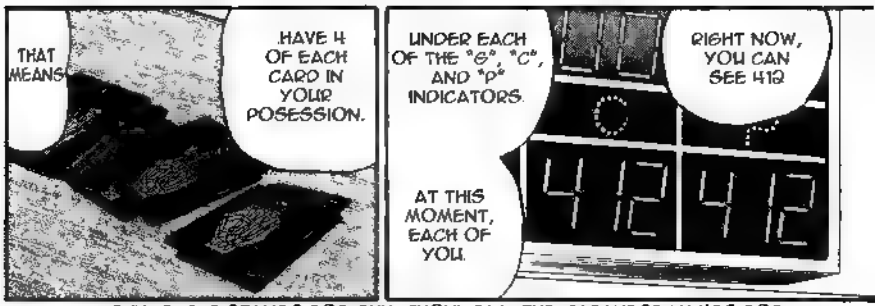

ざわ
WHAT ARE THESE FOR?
STARS
IS EVERY-ONE READY?
HMM-HM
ざわ..
ざわ..
THESE STARS WERE MADE TO ATTACH TO THE VELCRO BADGES THAT YOU WEAR ON YOUR LEFT BREAST
ON THE BACK OF EACH OF THOSE STARS, THERE IS A THIN LAYER OF VELCRO.
RIGHT NOW, YOU SHOULD BE HOLDING THREE GOLD STARS
ガヤ
カサ...
ATTACH THEM TO THE VELCRO BADGE.
ON YOUR CHEST AT THIS TIME
NOW, PLEASE PUT THOSE THREE STARS.
ビ


AND WITH THAT, YOU ARE NOW FULLY PREPARED FOR TONIGHT'S GAMBLE
VERY GOOD.
ざわ..
HMM-HM.
ざわ..
YOU WILL USE THESE CARDS TO PLAY RESTRICTED ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS
IN SHORT
ざわ..
ざわ..
WELL, I SUPPOSE I SHOULD EXPLAIN IT MORE SIMPLY..
BEING SO SHORT ON TIME, IT IS BETTER TO EXPLAIN IT AS WELL AS POSSIBLE
THOSE STARS WILL BE USED AS BETTING CHIPS TONIGHT
ALL THERE IS TO IT PLAIN AND SIMPLE
RIGHT NOW, ALL OF YOU SHOULD HAVE THREE STARS ON YOUR CHEST
THERE ARE 14 BOOTHS AT WHICH YOU AND ANOTHER PLAYER WILL STAND
AT THIS MOMENT, BEHIND ALL OF YOU,
YOU WILL USE THESE BOOTHS IN ORDER TO DUEL, TONIGHT
WITH A VISUAL AID
FIRST,
WE WILL EXPLAIN THE GAME'S FUNDAMENTAL RULES
SO, THEN

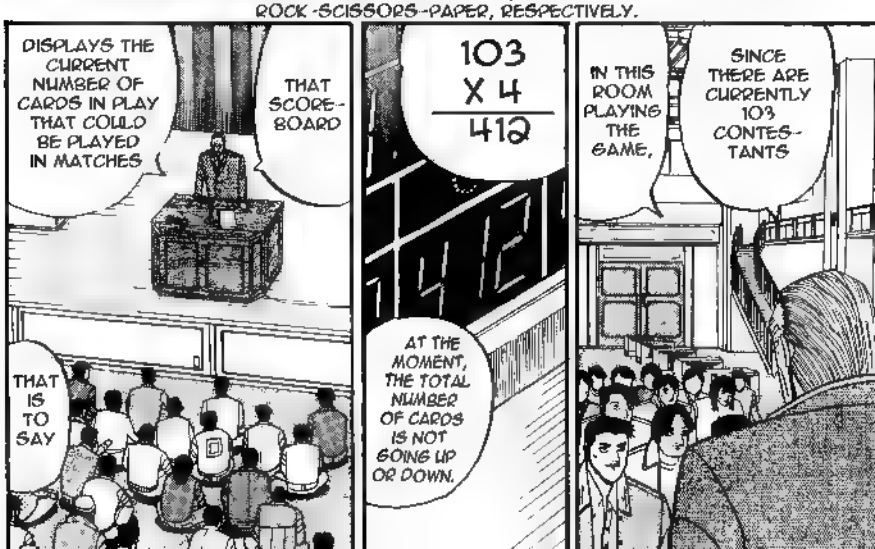
FACING THE CARD AWAY FROM THE OPPONENT TO DECLARE WHICH CARD THEY WILL USE
THEY BOTH MUTUALLY RAISE THEIR CARDS JUST BELOW EYE LEVEL.
THE "CHECK" PHASE
THEY WILL THEN GO INTO
BOTH PLAYERS HAVE CONFIRMED THEIR WILL TO BATTLE
ONCE THERE,
FACING DOWN TO PREPARE FOR THE ACTUAL FLIP.
THE CARDS ARE PLACED ON THE STAND,
THE "SET" PHASE
THEY GO INTO
AFTER THAT
THEY FLIP THE CARDS OVER...!
"OPEN" THEIR CARDS
THEY WILL BOTH
FI-NALLY

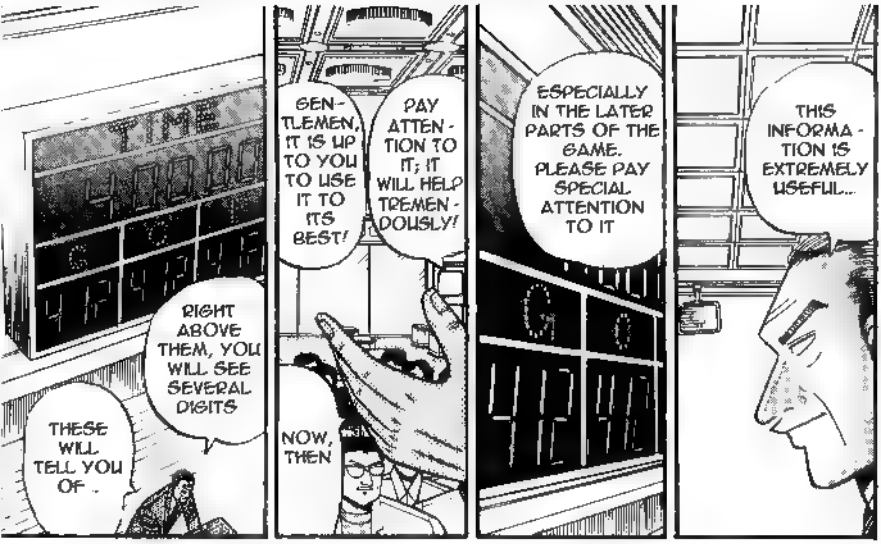
THE VICTOR WILL RECIEVE ONE STAR FROM THE LOSER...
WHICH HE WILL THEN ATTACH TO HIS CHEST
HOWEVER, SHOULD THERE BE A WINNER AND LOSER...
IF IT RESULTS IN A DRAW,
ONCE FLIPPED OVER
BOTH PLAYERS GET THEIR STARS BACK.
AND THAT IS THE PRO-CESS
THE CARDS THAT WERE USED IN THE MATCH.
FURTHER, AT THAT POINT,
HOWEVER YOU LIKE,
YOU MAY CHOOSE YOUR OPPO-NENTS
AND WHITTLE YOUR-SELVES DOWN, ONE BY ONE
ARE RESUL-TEDLY
CARDS THAT HAVE BEEN USED IN THE MATCH
UNABLE TO BE USED AGAIN
IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BOOTHS
WE HAVE PLACED A SMALL, RECTAN-GULAR SLOT
IN OTHER WORDS,
AND SO, TO DIS-POSE OF THEM,
NATURALLY, THEY CAN-NOT BE USED AGAIN

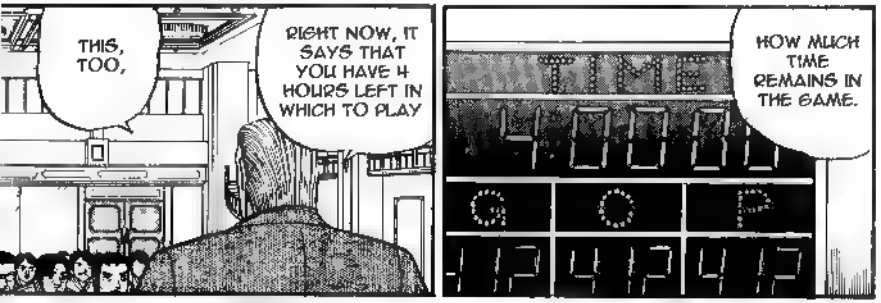

TIME
A LARGE SCORE-BOARD, WHICH INDICATES
ALL OF THE GAME'S STATI-STICS.
RIGHT ABOVE ME, YOU WILL NOTICE THAT WE'VE PLACED.
THEY WILL BE RECOG-NIZED BY A SCANNER PLACED INSIDE
ONCE THE CARDS ARE PLACED IN THE SLOT,


THAT MEANS
.HAVE 4 OF EACH CARD IN YOUR POSESSION.
UNDER EACH OF THE "G", "C", AND "P" INDICATORS.
AT THIS MOMENT, EACH OF YOU.
RIGHT NOW, YOU CAN SEE 412
412
412

E/N. G-C-P STANDS FOR GUU-CHOKI-PAA, THE JAPANESE NAMES FOR ROCK-SCISSORS-PAPER, RESPECTIVELY.

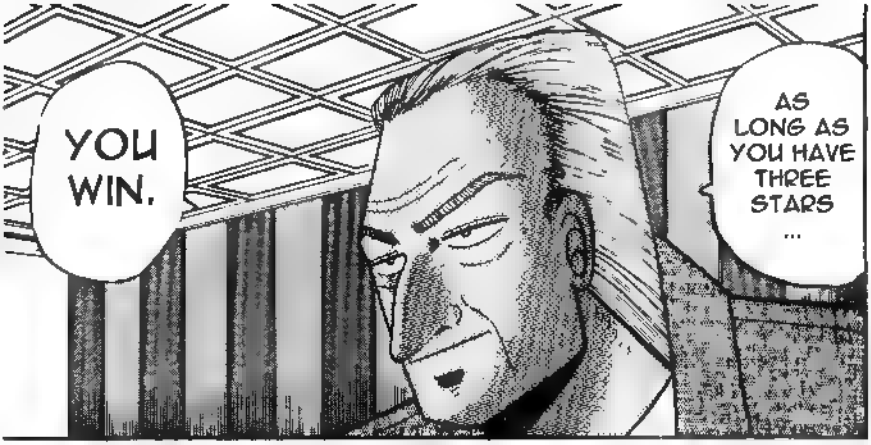

DISPLAYS THE CURRENT NUMBER OF CARDS IN PLAY THAT COULD BE PLAYED IN MATCHES.
THAT SCORE-BOARD
THAT IS TO SAY
103
X 4
412
AT THE MOMENT, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CARDS IS NOT GOING UP OR DOWN.
IN THIS ROOM PLAYING THE GAME,
SINCE THERE ARE CURRENTLY 103 CONTES-TANTS

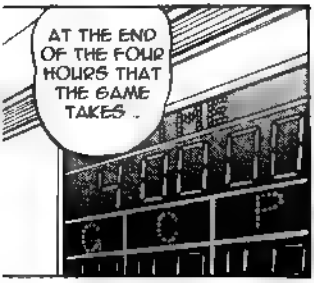

THIS INFORMATION IS EXTREMELY USEFUL...
ESPECIALLY IN THE LATER PARTS OF THE GAME. PLEASE PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO IT
PAY ATTENTION TO IT; IT WILL HELP TREMENDOUSLY!
GENTLEMEN, IT IS UP TO YOU TO USE IT TO ITS BEST!
NOW, THEN
RIGHT ABOVE THEM, YOU WILL SEE SEVERAL DIGITS
THESE WILL TELL YOU OF -


HOW MUCH TIME REMAINS IN THE GAME.
RIGHT NOW, IT SAYS THAT YOU HAVE 4 HOURS LEFT IN WHICH TO PLAY
THIS, TOO,

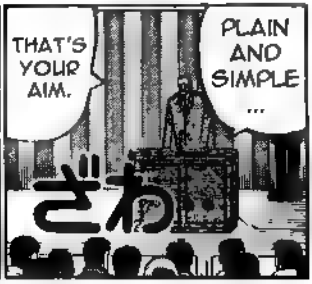
WILL GO DOWN, BIT BY BIT
AS SOON AS THE MATCH FORMALLY BEGINS
HMM-HM..
OKAY
NOW, WE ARE FINALLY
AT THE HEART OF THE GAME.

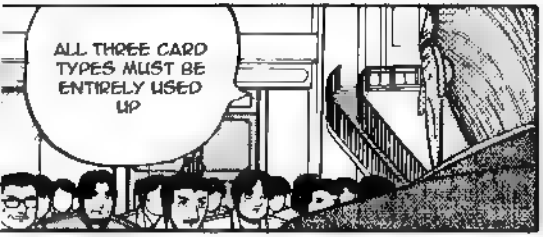
THE WINNING CONDITIONS FOR THE GAME.
IT'S TIME TO DISCUSS
THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN THE WHOLE GAME..
ざわ ざわ
ざわ
THIS IS THE MOST ABSOLUTE, UNQUES-TIONABLE RULE
IN THIS BATTLE
HMM-HM.
ざわ
THIS RULE IS THAT, AT THE END OF THE GAME
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF THE DIFFERENCE IS BY SEVERAL OR ONLY ONE STAR.
.....

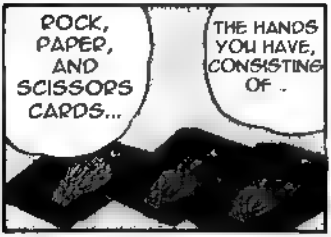

YOU WIN.
AS LONG AS YOU HAVE THREE STARS ...


AT THE END OF THE FOUR HOURS THAT THE GAME TAKES ..

JUST ONE
HOWEVER, THERE IS AN ADDITIONAL GOAL ON TOP OF THAT


THAT'S YOUR AIM.
PLAIN AND SIMPLE ...
ざわ

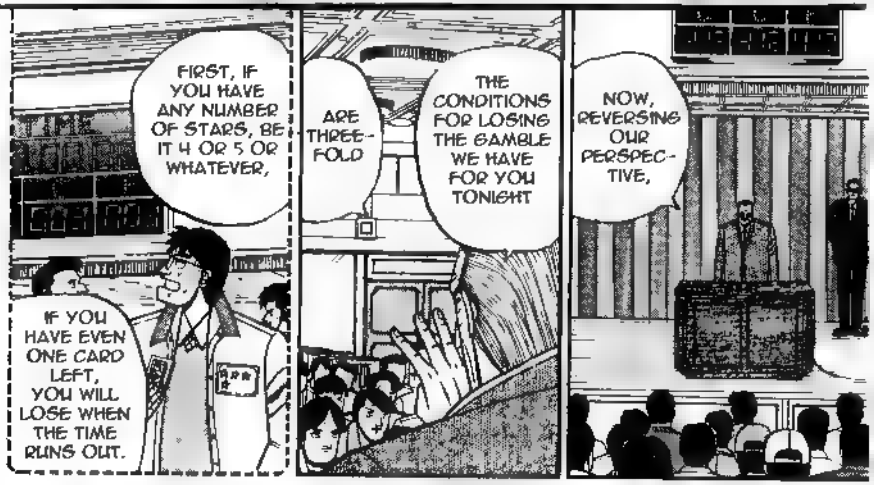

ALL THREE CARD TYPES MUST BE ENTIRELY USED UP


ROCK, PAPER, AND SCISSORS CARDS...
THE HANDS YOU HAVE, CONSISTING OF .

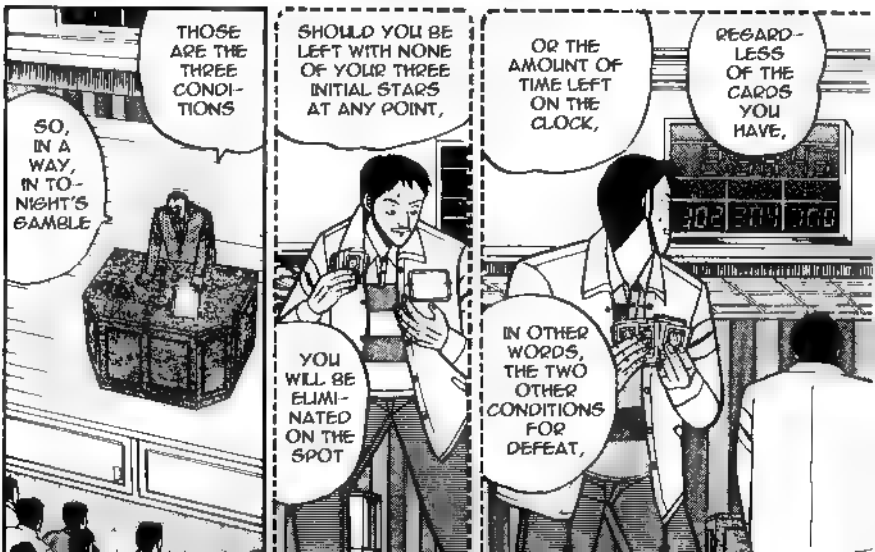
.....

DO I MAKE MYSELF CLEAR?

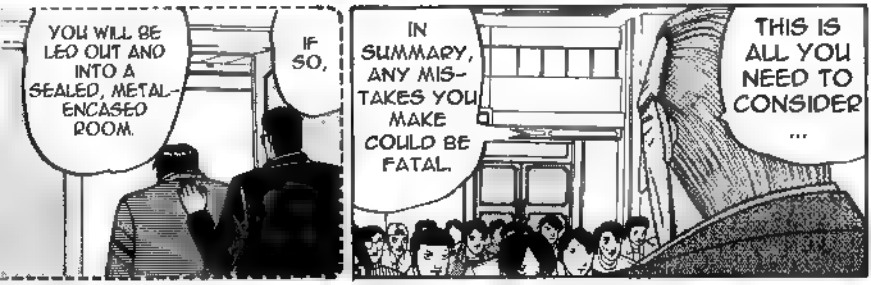
IF YOU'RE NOT ENTIRELY OUT OF CARDS AT THE END OF THE GAME, WE CANNOT ALLOW YOU TO PASS.
EVEN IF YOU HAVE 5 OR 6 STARS .


FIRST, IF YOU HAVE ANY NUMBER OF STARS, BE IT 4 OR 5 OR WHATEVER,
IF YOU HAVE EVEN ONE CARD LEFT, YOU WILL LOSE WHEN THE TIME RUNS OUT.
ARE THREE-FOLD
THE CONDITIONS FOR LOSING THE GAMBLE WE HAVE FOR YOU TONIGHT
NOW, REVERSING OUR PERSPEC-TIVE,

THE THIRD CON-DI-TION
AND THEN, FINALLY,
YOU HAVE TWO OR LESS STARS ON YOUR BADGE, THAT IS ALSO A CONDITION FOR DEFEAT
SECOND, IF, AT THE END OF THE TIME LIMIT,


THOSE ARE THE THREE CONDI-TIONS
SO, IN A WAY, IN TO-NIGHT'S GAMBLE
SHOULD YOU BE LEFT WITH NONE OF YOUR THREE INITIAL STARS AT ANY POINT,
YOU WILL BE ELIMI-NATED ON THE SPOT
OR THE AMOUNT OF TIME LEFT ON THE CLOCK,
REGARD-LESS OF THE CARDS YOU HAVE,
IN OTHER WORDS, THE TWO OTHER CONDITIONS FOR DEFEAT,

AND YOUR CARDS ARE YOUR CHANCES!
YOUR STARS ARE YOUR LIFE FORCE,

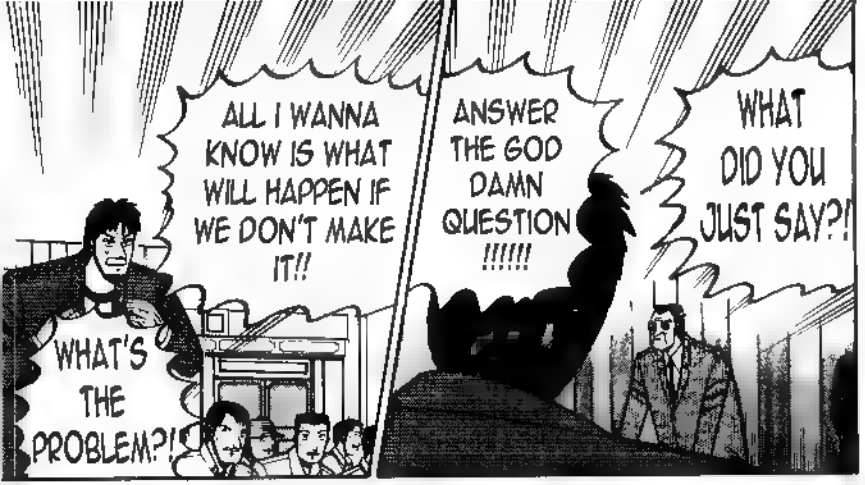

YOU WILL BE LED OUT AND INTO A SEALED, METAL-ENCASED ROOM.
IF SO,
IN SUMMARY, ANY MISTAKES YOU MAKE COULD BE FATAL.
THIS IS ALL YOU NEED TO CONSIDER ...

THE TOTAL AMOUNT WILL NOT BE AFFECTED
SO THAT THE ROCK, PAPER, AND SCISSOR CARDS
WE WILL INSERT THEM INTO THE BOOTHS BY HAND
AND IF YOU STILL HAVE CARDS THAT YOU HAVEN'T USED,
ざわ...
HUH ..?
ALL RIGHT ...
WIL. NOT HAVE THEIR REMAINING TOTALS SENT INTO DISARRAY

MY EXPLAINATION OF THE RULES IS COMPLETE.
WITH THIS ...
NO WAY...
UGH
ざわ‥
ざわ‥
ざわ‥
I WISH YOU NOTHING BUT THE BEST OF LUCK
GEN-TLE-MEN,
HOW DOES THIS GAMBLE EVEN USE MONEY?!
WITH ALL THIS MO-NEY?
WHAT DO WE DO...
HO
HOLD ON!

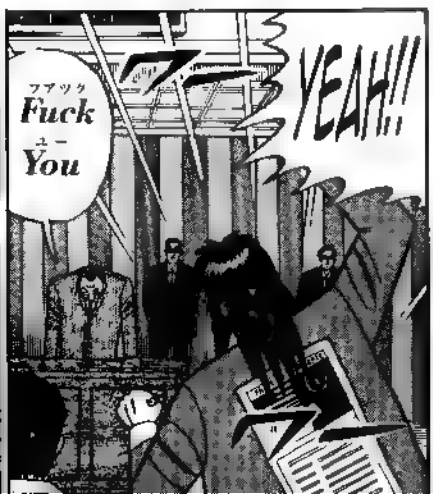
HUH...?
DO WHAT YOU WANT WITH IT
I SIMPLY DO NOT HAVE THE TIME TO WASTE ANSWERING YOUR QUESTIONS.
AS I CLEARLY STATED AT THE START,
WHAT HAPPENS TO THE LOSERS?
YOU'RE SAYING THAT THIS IS ALL UP TO US...?
IT'S UP TO YOU WHAT YOU USE IT FOR
UP TO US...?
THAT MONEY IS YOUR BUDGET
THE YAKUZA WHO BROUGHT ME HERE SAID THAT YOU'D TELL US ABOUT IT!
THAT... I WANNA KNOW THAT, TOO
AH
TELL US!!
SOME OF US ARE GONNA BE LOSING, SO WHAT HAPPENS?!

I CANNOT PERMIT
ANY QUES-TIONS WHA'SO-EVER
ざわ…
ざわざわ


WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?!
ALL I WANNA KNOW IS WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF WE DON'T MAKE IT!!
ANSWER THE GOD DAMN QUESTION !!!!!!
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?!

UHH
WE DO!!
THAT'S RIGHT!!
WE HAVE A MOTHER-FUCKING RIGHT TO KNOW!!

HUHH


Fuck You
YEAH!!

YOU PIECES OF SHIT.
I'LL RIP OFF YOUR MOUTHS ...

THIS GUY
CHAPTER 5 - FIN
第5話 終
UHH
ざわ..
ざわ..
URGH
ざわ..

ざわ…ざわ…ざわ…
I THOUGHT THAT THIS GENERATION MIGHT HAVE HAD PROMISE
I'VE GREATLY MISREAD YOU
EVERY-ONE
HAVE SOME SELF-CON-TROL!
YOUR MANNER OF THOUGHT IS DESPIC-ABLE!
YOU'RE NOT HELPING ANYONE RUNNING AROUND LIKE A CHICKEN WITH ITS HEAD CHOPPED OFF!
YOU'RE ACTING LIKE INFANTS.
IT'S LIKE YOU'RE ONLY 3 OR 4 YEARS OLD.
uhh
IN THAT WAY
YOU DEMAND THINGS GO YOUR WAY
THIS GENERA-TION IS SO SELFISH.

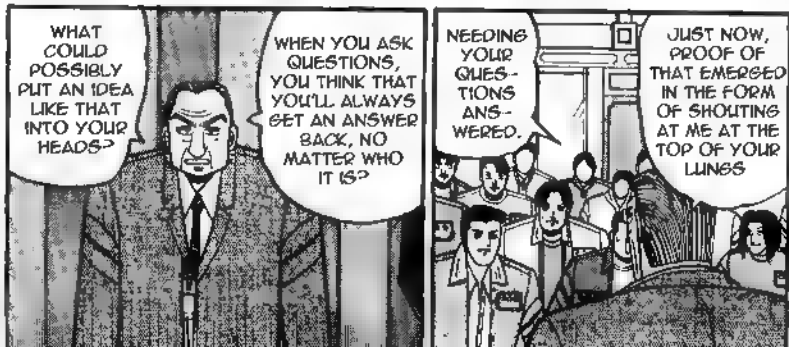
CHAPTER 6 - BREAKING DOWN
第6話「変貌」

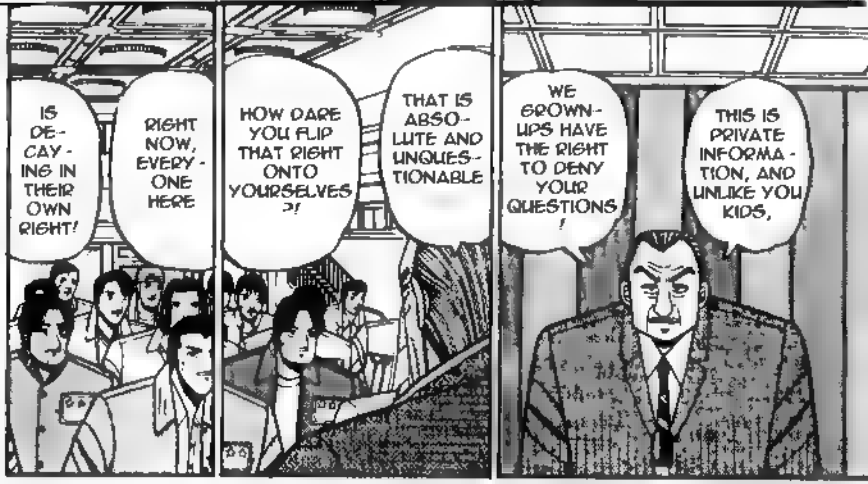
DON'T RELY ON ME!

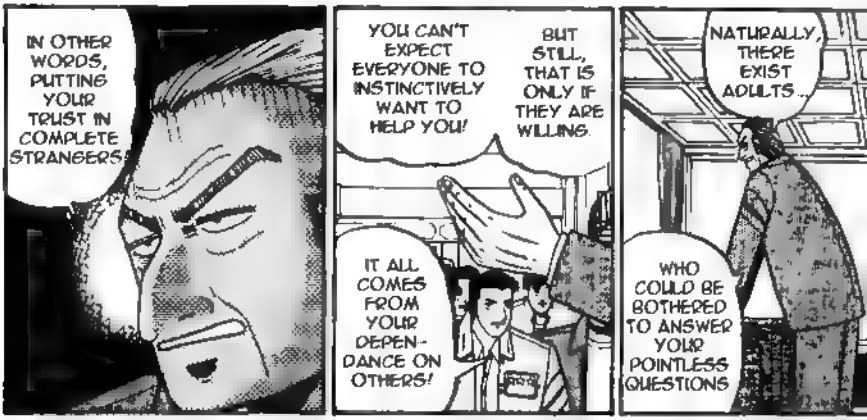
THAT I WOULD NOT ANSWER ANY QUES-TIONS!
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING I SAID WAS
THE WORLD AND ITS PEOPLE
DO WHAT THEY NEED TO.
I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT I'M HEAR-ING..
HOW STUPID

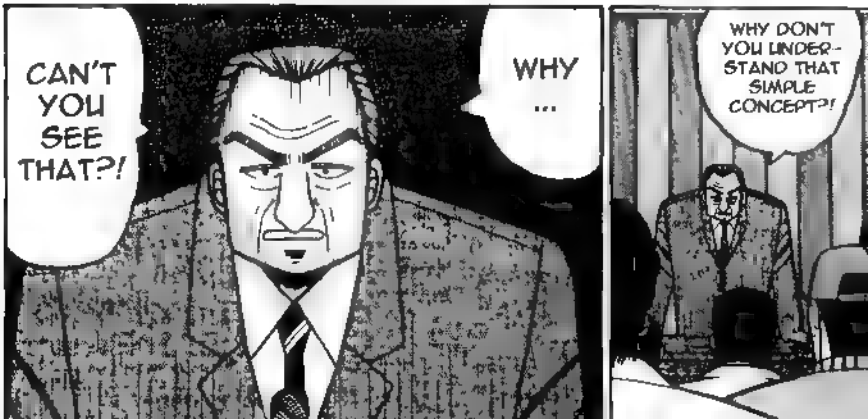
YOU'RE ALL VERY DEPEN-DANT
IT'S OB-VIOUS TO ME THAT
.....
ざわ..ざわ..

WE HAVE ANY AND ALL AUTHORITY!
THIS IS A BUSI-NESS, AND THERE-FORE
OF COURSE NOT! CAN'T YOU GET THAT MUCH?!
DO YOU THINK THOSE COMPANIES HAVE SOMEONE TO TURN TO TO ASK QUES-TIONS?!
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WEL-FARE HAS MEDICINAL PROBLEMS
THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE HAS PROBLEMS WITH OVERDUE LOANS .

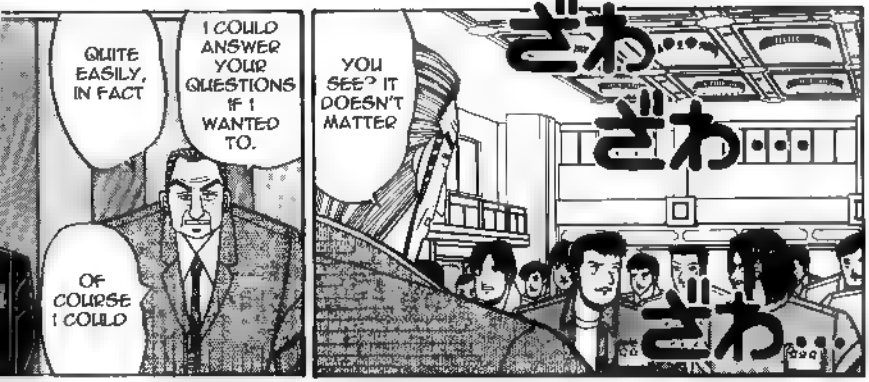

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY PUT AN IDEA LIKE THAT INTO YOUR HEADS?
WHEN YOU ASK QUESTIONS, YOU THINK THAT YOU'LL ALWAYS GET AN ANSWER BACK, NO MATTER WHO IT IS?
NEEDING YOUR QUES-TIONS ANS-WERED.
JUST NOW, PROOF OF THAT EMERGED IN THE FORM OF SHOUTING AT ME AT THE TOP OF YOUR LUNGS

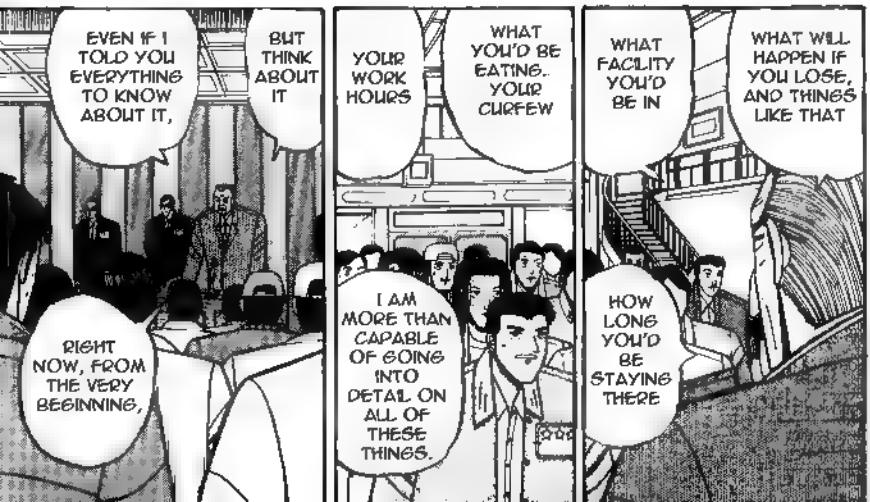

IS DE-CAY-ING IN THEIR OWN RIGHT!
RIGHT NOW, EVERY-ONE HERE
HOW DARE YOU FLIP THAT RIGHT ONTO YOURSELVES ?!
THAT IS ABSO-LUTE AND UNQUES-TIONABLE
WE GROWN-UPS HAVE THE RIGHT TO DENY YOUR QUESTIONS !
THIS IS PRIVATE INFORMA-TION, AND UNLIKE YOU KIDS,

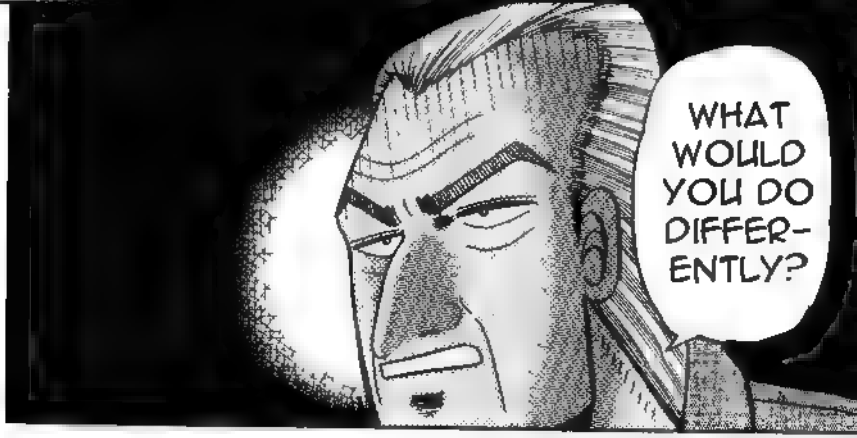

IN OTHER WORDS, PUTTING YOUR TRUST IN COMPLETE STRANGERS!
YOU CAN'T EXPECT EVERYONE TO INSTINCTIVELY WANT TO HELP YOU!
BUT STILL, THAT IS ONLY IF THEY ARE WILLING
IT ALL COMES FROM YOUR DEPEN-DANCE ON OTHERS!
NATURALLY, THERE EXIST ADULTS...
WHO COULD BE BOTHERED TO ANSWER YOUR POINTLESS QUESTIONS


CAN'T YOU SEE THAT?!
WHY ...
WHY DON'T YOU UNDER-STAND THAT SIMPLE CONCEPT?!

ah
ざわ…


I COULD ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS IF I WANTED TO.
QUITE EASILY, IN FACT
OF COURSE I COULD
YOU SEE? IT DOESN'T MATTER
ざわ…
ざわ…
ざわ…


EVEN IF I TOLD YOU EVERYTHING TO KNOW ABOUT IT,
BUT THINK ABOUT IT
RIGHT NOW, FROM THE VERY BEGINNING,
YOUR WORK HOURS
WHAT YOU'D BE EATING. YOUR CURFEW
I AM MORE THAN CAPABLE OF GOING INTO DETAIL ON ALL OF THESE THINGS.
WHAT FACILITY YOU'D BE IN
WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF YOU LOSE, AND THINGS LIKE THAT
HOW LONG YOU'D BE STAYING THERE


WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFER-ENTLY?

DO YOU STILL WANT TO HEAR ABOUT IT?
THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ANY OF THAT

HMM-HMM-HM
ざわ…
ざわ…

ざわ…

THERE IS NO HIDDEN MEANING IN MY SPEECH.
THIS SHIP HAS ALREADY SET SAIL, AND WITH ALL OF YOU ON IT

MY SPEECH WASN'T ENOUGH TO QUENCH YOUR SELFISH THIRST FOR COMFORT!
YOU WERE ONLY AFTER YOUR OWN PEACE OF MIND!
THAT BLIND DEVOTION, PLACING YOUR FULL TRUST IN ME, ONLY LED YOU ASTRAY!
PUT ANO-THER WAY
WHAT DID YOU THINK I MEANT?
IN THE END, AS USUAL,
ざわ
AM I WRONG..?
So harsh
gulp
ざわ...
ざわ...
COULD HE BE RIGHT...? HAVE WE REALLY FALLEN SO FAR...?
IN THE END
I SAY THAT, BUT
HE'S REALLY LETTING US HAVE IT
EVEN SO

WHICH PLACE IS HELL ON EARTH...?
ざわ...
THIS IS OPPRE-SION!!
IT'S UN-REA-SON-ABLE!!
THAT'S NOT TRUE, WHAT YOU SAID!!
THAT
ざわ...
ざわ...
ざわ...

HMM?
IS THIS SOME KIND OF GAME TO YOU?!
YOU'RE SO FULL OF YOURSELF !!
I CAN'T ALLOW THIS!!
FROM THE START, YOU WERE JUST TRYING TO SCARE US!
ALL THAT SHIT ABOUT OUR FAIL-URES
INTERES-TING CONCLU-SION!
I SEE, I SEE
HMM-HMM-HM.
THE STUFF ABOUT THE STRICT CONDITIONS WAS JUST TO MAKE US FIGHT HARDER!!
..YOU'LL WIND UP IN THE PITS OF HELL*?
TO LIE TO YOU WITH MY SAYING *IF YOU LOSE
SINCE YOU'VE COME THAT FAR
SURELY YOU'VE COME UP WITH A REASON WHY I'D DO THAT?
I WOULD NOT HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT
WHAT AN ACTIVE IMAGIN-ATION YOU HAVE..
WELL, WHETHER OR NOT I ACTUALLY LIED..
RIGHT NOW, IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT

I CAN SAY WITH CONFIDENCE THAT YOU ARE ALREADY IN HELL.

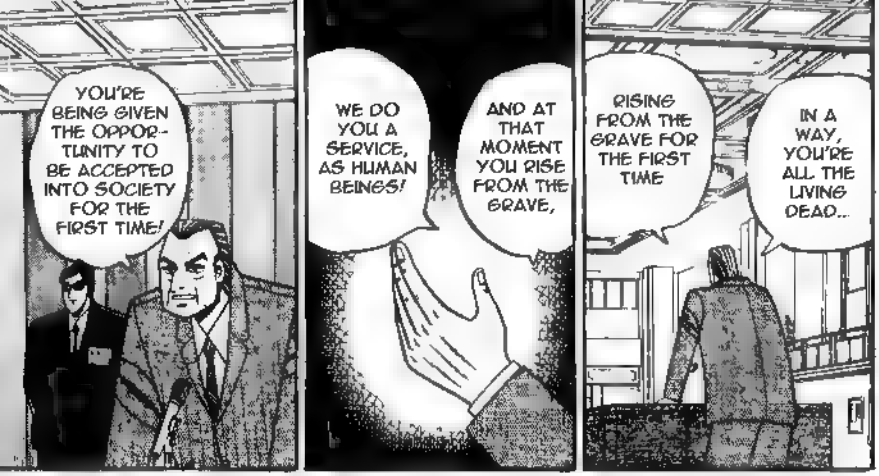
huh ?

.....

BEFORE YOU CAN BEGIN TO GET OUT,
BUT STILL
YOU MUST EN- DURE HARD- SHIP

YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO CRAWL OUT FROM THE PITS OF HELL YOU CAME FROM.
HALF OF YOU WILL MAKE IT

AND NOW, YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN A THREAD OF A CHANCE


YOU'RE BEING GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE ACCEPTED INTO SOCIETY FOR THE FIRST TIME!
WE DO YOU A SERVICE, AS HUMAN BEINGS!
AND AT THAT MOMENT YOU RISE FROM THE GRAVE,
RISING FROM THE GRAVE FOR THE FIRST TIME
IN A WAY, YOU'RE ALL THE LIVING DEAD...

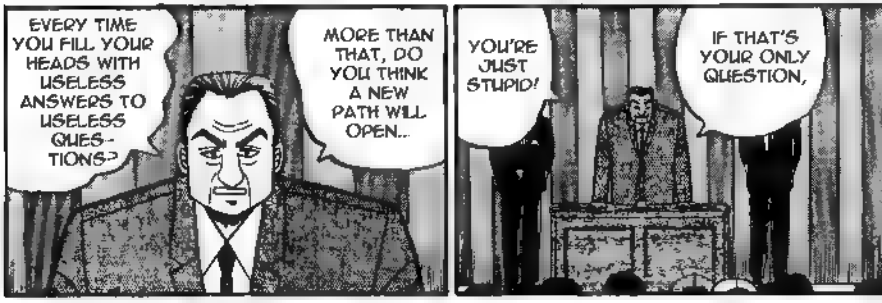
BUT, IF YOU DON'T WIN, THAT'S ALL OUT THE WINDOW!

IN THAT WAY, EVERYONE IS WELL AWARE OF YOUR FATES..
THAT IN MIND, THIS IS ONE PLACE WHERE YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT WHAT YOU NEED TO DO!

YOU'RE FIGHTING A DANGEROUS BATTLE
YOU COULD LOSE WHAT LITTLE YOU HAVE, HERE AND NOW!

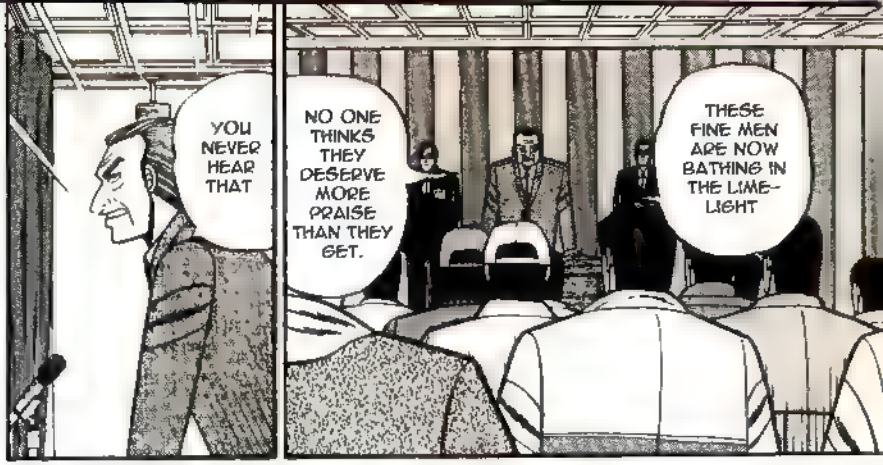
WILL THE LOSERS LOSE ONCE AGAIN?
TODAY, THIS COLLECTION OF GARBAGE HAS GATHERED FOR ONE, FINAL BATTLE!
YOU'RE CERTIFIED GARBAGE!

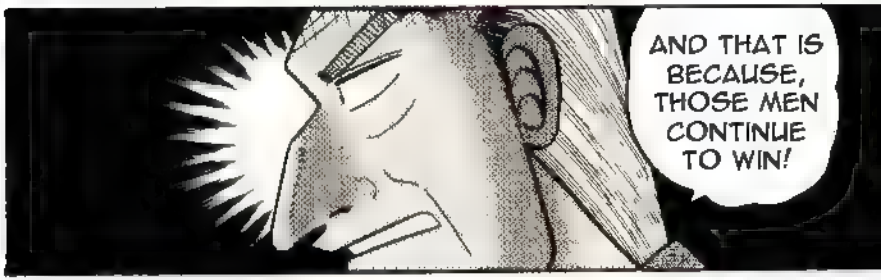
GET THAT THOUGHT OUT OF YOUR HEADS RIGHT THIS INSTANT!
"WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I LOSE, HERE?"
YOU WOULD NOT MAKE IT OUT OF HERE ALIVE!
FROM THE START, YOU KNEW THAT IF YOU COULDN'T WIN.


EVERY TIME YOU FILL YOUR HEADS WITH USELESS ANSWERS TO USELESS QUES-TIONS?
MORE THAN THAT, DO YOU THINK A NEW PATH WILL OPEN...
YOU'RE JUST STUPID!
IF THAT'S YOUR ONLY QUESTION,

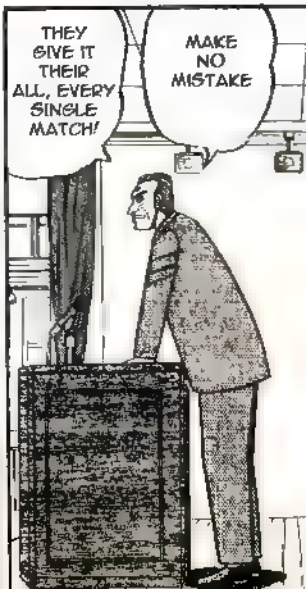
AND ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS WIN!
RIGHT NOW, YOU HAVE THE CHANCE TO MAKE THINGS BETTER BY FORCE!
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU SAID THAT THINGS WILL GET BETTER, SOMEHOW, SOME WAY?
HOW ABOUT THAT?
TRY AND THINK OF ONE DAMN TIME
LET ME SAY RIGHT NOW THAT IT WON'T!
JUST WIN!!
WELL, NOW, THERE'S NO NEED FOR THOSE WORDS!
THAT DOING THAT HAS EVER WORKED FOR YOU!

THAT'S WHY YOU'RE PLAYING THE PART OF HUMAN TRASH!
"A WIN WOULD BE NICE", MY ASS!
RIGHT NOW...
"A WIN WOULD BE NICE..."
YOUR THOUGHTS ARE NO BETTER THAN THAT!
YOU NEVER KNEW THE TASTE OF VICTORY...!
UNTIL NOW, YOU'VE DONE NOTHING BUT LOSE
YOU CANNOT ALLOW YOURSELF TO LOSE!!
THE MARINERS' ICHIRO SUZUKI
HABU YOSHIHARU... CHAMPION SHOGI PLAYER
PITCHER FOR THE DOD-GERS.
NOMO HIDEO


YOU NEVER HEAR THAT
NO ONE THINKS THEY DESERVE MORE PRAISE THAN THEY GET.
THESE FINE MEN ARE NOW BATHING IN THE LIME-LIGHT


AND THAT IS BECAUSE, THOSE MEN CONTINUE TO WIN!

IT'S A PART OF THEIR CHARACTER... THEY NEED TO HAVE THAT AFFIRMATION!
THESE MEN WON!
FOR THEM, WINNING IS EVERYTHING!


THEY GIVE IT THEIR ALL, EVERY SINGLE MATCH!
MAKE NO MISTAKE

IF THEY WERE TO LOSE,
WHAT DO YOU THINK WOULD HAPPEN?

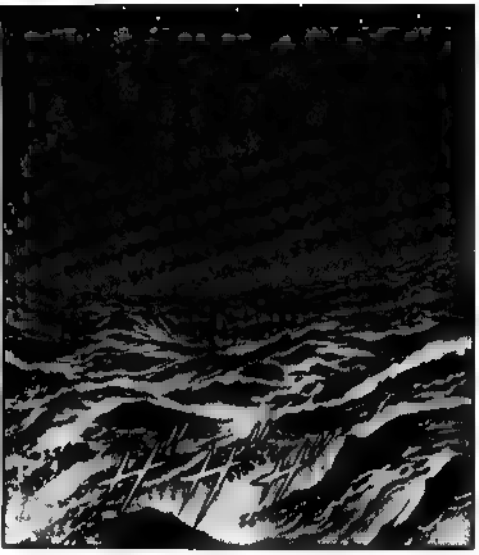
HABU WOULD BECOME DEPRESSED
NOMU WOULD BE KNOWN AS A FOOL
IF THAT WERE TO HAPPEN
THEN, PROBABLY..
IF THEY HIT A LOSING STREAK, WHAT WOULD HAPPEN?
THAT IS A SIMPLE FACT OF LIFE!
ANYONE WOULD LOSE FAITH IN THEM
A CREEPY, NO-GOOD SLACKER!
EVEN ICHIRO WOULD BE..
RIGHT NOW, WHO COULD LOVE A PATHETIC BUNCH LIKE YOURSELVES?
ARE DEEP IN A LOSING STREAK!
THE 103 OF YOU
ON THE OTHER END

THE SCUM OF SOCIETY
HESITANT TO DO ANYTHING
NECK-DEEP IN POVERTY
CRAW-LING
AND WHY?
BARELY GETTING BY!
CREEPING
WRITHING
IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR OWN, INDIVIDUAL LOSING STREAKS!
THAT IS BECAUSE, YOU ARE ALL STILL.

YOU STILL HAVEN'T FOUND YOUR MOTI-VATION
HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN TRYING TO FIND YOURSELVES ?!
YOU ARE ALL ALREADY OVER 30 YEARS OLD!
YOU SEE, FINDING YOUR PURPOSE COMES LATER!
YOU'RE STILL NOT IN TUNE WITH YOUR HEART!
IF YOU DON'T WIN...
IF YOU DON'T WIN...
IF YOU DON'T WIN, YOU ARE TRASH!
WINNING IS EVERY-THING ...

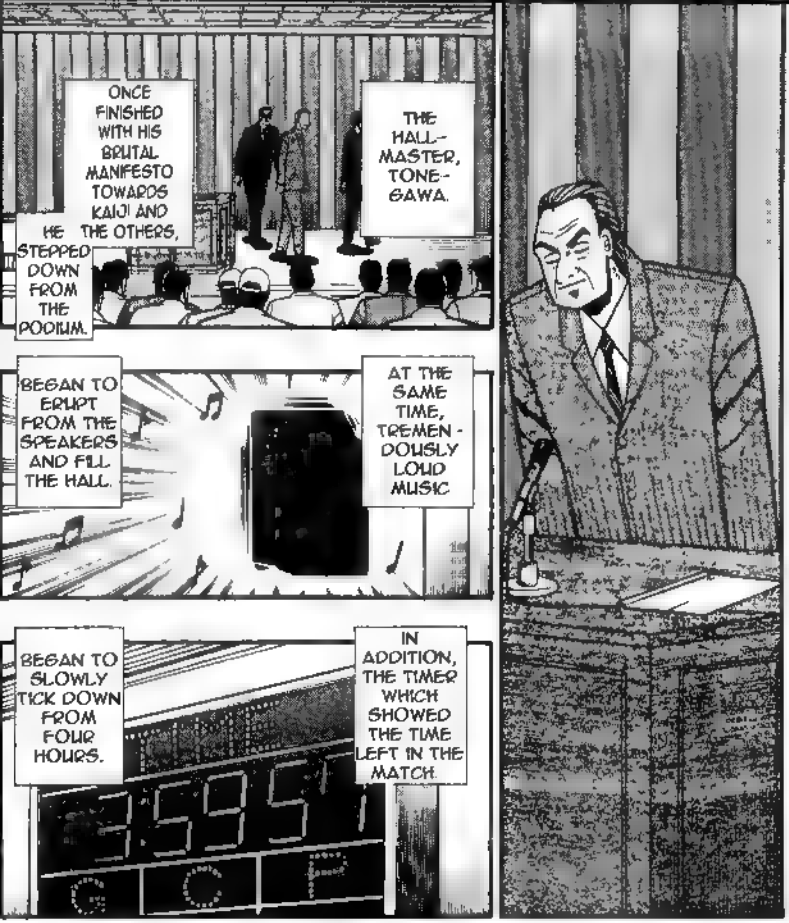
VICTORY IS THE ONLY OPTION!
urgh
CHA
256

ALL OF YOU...



CREEPED AND CRAWLED
AND WRITHED...

YOU CRAWLED YOUR WAY HERE...
JUST LIKE COCKROACHES!!


ONCE FINISHED WITH HIS BRUTAL MANIFESTO TOWARDS KAIJI AND THE OTHERS, HE STEPPED DOWN FROM THE PODIUM.
THE HALL-MASTER, TONEGAWA.
BEGAN TO ERUPT FROM THE SPEAKERS AND FILL THE HALL.
AT THE SAME TIME, TREMENDOUSLY LOUD MUSIC
BEGAN TO SLOWLY TICK DOWN FROM FOUR HOURS.
IN ADDITION, THE TIMER WHICH SHOWED THE TIME LEFT IN THE MATCH

THE BATTLE HAD OFFICIALLY BEGUN
URGH
ざわ…
ざわ…
AH

HOW CAN THEY ALLOW THIS TOTALLY INCOMPLETE EXPLAINATION OF THE RULES?!
WHY ISN'T ANYONE OBJECTING TO THIS?!
HOW CAN THEY START THE MATCH SO SOON?!
THEY CAN'T DO THIS!
THEY CAN'T..
NO WAY..
WERE LEFT UNANSWERED IN THE END.
THE PLAYERS' QUESTIONS REGARDING THE MONEY AND CONSEQUENCES FOR DEFEAT.

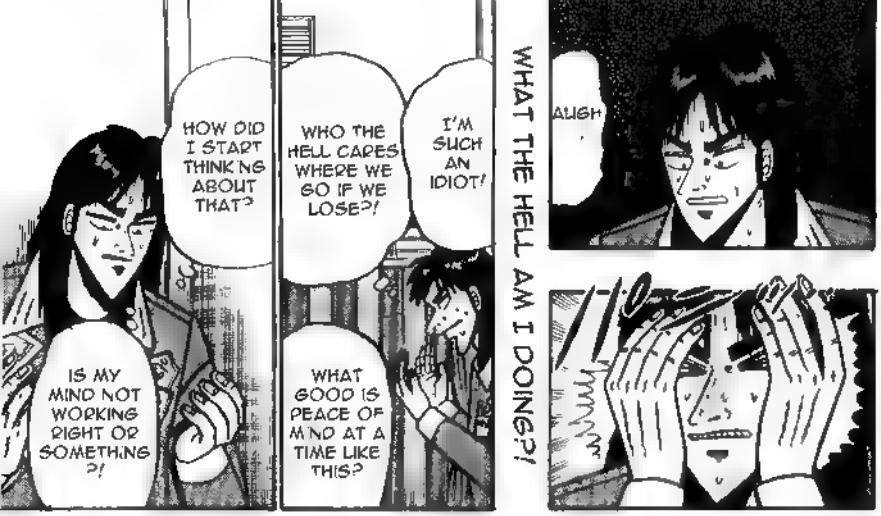
THERE WOULD BE NO WAY TO STOP IT!
IF EVERYONE ON THE FLOOR WERE TO RISE UP AGAINST THEM,
INDEED..
THE FLOOR HAD 20 BLACK-SUITS ON IT.
WHAT COULD THEY DO IF EVERYONE HERE STARTED TO RISE UP AGAINST THEM?
I MEAN, THERE'S SO MANY PEOPLE HERE!
さわ…
さわ…

ONE OF THE MOST CRITICAL ASPECTS FOR THE REBELLION WOULD BE.
PEOPLE WERE CRYING ALL OVER THE PLACE.
AND MOREOVER, EVEN GETTING A REBELLION TOGETHER WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE
ONE HAD TO CONSIDER THAT THEY WERE LIKELY ARMED WITH GUNS.
THEY WOULD ONLY COME DOWN IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.
BUT THERE WERE ALSO A FAIR NUMBER ABOVE.
FURTHERMORE,
HAVING EVERYONE WILLING TO SEE TEIAI AS A COMMON ENEMY.
THE GENERAL ATMOSPHERE OF THE ROOM WAS UNSUITED FOR SUCH A GRAND FEAT.
FIRST AND FOREMOST AT THAT POINT

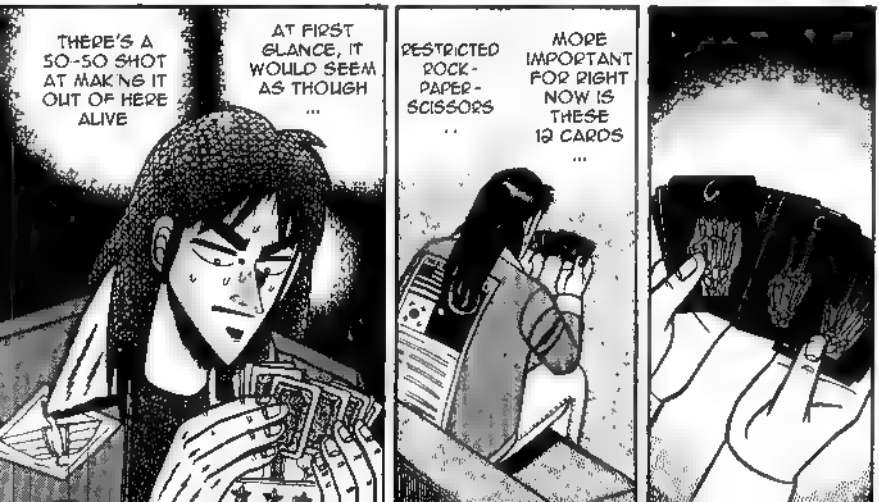
sniff
sniff
BUT THANKS TO TONEGAWA'S SPEECH, MANY PEOPLE ARE ACTUALLY CRYING TEARS OF GRATITUDE!
HOW CAN THEY LIVE WITH BEING SO DUMB?
I MEAN, REALLY.
THEY'RE SO DAMN STUPID!
THEY ONLY LISTENED TO HIM 'CAUSE HE'S IN AUTHOR-ITY.
TONE-GAWA ALREADY DID HIS SPIEL
IT'S USELESS TO TRY AND FIX THINGS NOW..
WHOA, WHOA!
.....
I've gotta win. Just gotta
I'm gonna win.
ABOUT 10 TO 20% OF THE PLAYERS ARE NOW IN THIS WEAK, SUBMISSIVE STATE!
SOB.
Ohhh
I CAN'T REBEL AGAINST THEM ALL BY MYSELF!
.....
WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
SHIT..
THEY'RE TOO FRIGGIN' NAIVE!
I GUESS WE'VE ALREADY SINGLED OUT THE LOSERS OF THIS GAME...
IT WON'T JUST GET BETTER OVER TIME...
WELL, I GUESS THAT'S HOW IT IS...
THAT'S SO WEAK, YOU GUYS!

I DOUBT WE'LL ACTUALLY BE GOING TO A LABOR CAMP IF OUR DEBTS ARE TOO BIG...
THEY'RE JUST PLAYING WITH OUR IGNORANT CONFUSION
WELL, IT'S PROBABLY FINE...
I GUESS I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE

HE HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD.
FROM THE START, THEY WERE JUST USING CRUEL IMAGERY ON US.
IT WAS ALL TO MAKE US FEEL MORE LIKE WE HAD TO WIN FOR SURE...
JUST LIKE HE SAID.
WHAT THAT GUY SAID BACK THEN WAS RIGHT ON THE MONEY
DESPITE WHAT ONE MIGHT THINK,


HOW DID I START THINKING ABOUT THAT?
WHO THE HELL CARES WHERE WE GO IF WE LOSE?!
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!
IS MY MIND NOT WORKING RIGHT OR SOMETHING?!
WHAT GOOD IS PEACE OF MIND AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
AUGH
WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING?!

I JUST WON'T LET IT COME TO THAT!
NO MATTER WHAT...
ALL THAT MATTERS IS...
.....
JUST LIKE THE HALLMASTER SAID, I CAN SAFELY IGNORE JUST WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I LOSE!
THAT'S NOT PART OF THE GAME!
I HATE TO SAY THIS, BUT..


THERE'S A 50-50 SHOT AT MAKING IT OUT OF HERE ALIVE
AT FIRST GLANCE, IT WOULD SEEM AS THOUGH...
RESTRICTED ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS..
MORE IMPORTANT FOR RIGHT NOW IS THESE 12 CARDS...

ファ…
BUT...
THERE SHOULD BE SOME-THING
SOME ME-THOD
SOME WAY TO HELP MY CHANCES, HERE...
HUH ...?
JUST THEN,
ざわ…
ざわ…
THE FIRST LOSER WAS DECIDED
IT WAS LESS THAN 10 MINUTES AFTER THE GAME BEGAN,
AND HE HAD ALREADY LOST ALL THREE OF HIS STARS
ONCE A PLAYER WAS DEFEATED FOR GOOD,
HE WAS LED TO A SPECIAL ROOM IN THE CENTER OF THE HALL.
IN THIS GAM-BLE ...

THE UNLUCKY PLAYERS WERE PICKED OFF FIRST ...
AND WERE LED AWAY W THOUT A FIGHT.
THE LOSERS WERE DEC DED QUICKLY ...
YOU COULD BE DEFEATED IN A MATTER OF MINUTES IF YOU LOST THREE TIMES IN A ROW!
EACH MATCH ONLY TOOK ABOUT 10 SECONDS.
THEY WERE REMOVED VERY QUICKLY!
WHAT ARE THEY THINKING ?!
URGH..
THE LOSERS START TO PILE UP!
ONE AFTER ANO - THER ...
THEY'RE STILL SMILING EVEN AFTER THEY'VE LOST!
IT'S LIKE THEY'RE MORE EMBAR - RASSED
THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE PEOPLE WHO JUST LOST A HUGE GAMBLE ..!
WHAT'S UP WITH THEM?
NEWS FLASH. YOU JUST LOST THE GAMBLE OF YOUR LIVES!!
THEY'RE ACTING LIKE THIS WAS SOME PARTY GAME OR SOMETHING

HUH?
QUITE THE ANTICLIMAX, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?
WHAT DO THEY THINK THIS IS?!
HMM-HMM-HM ...
I KNOW THAT LOOK. I CAN TELL WHAT YOU'RE THINKING.
.....?

MAN UP AND FACE IT.
YOU NEED TO PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THE WORST-CASE.
IN A GAME LIKE THIS...
THOSE GUYS ARE ACTING VERY PECULIAR FOR PEOPLE WHO JUST LOST A MAJOR GAMBLE..

AND THOSE PEOPLE WILL RUSH IN AND KILL EACH OTHER OFF QUICKLY.
WITH A GROUP OF THIS SIZE, THERE WILL BE PEOPLE WHO LACK N CREATIV TY.
YOU'D WANT TO PREPARE FOR T AS MUCH AS YOU CAN SO YOU DON'T MESS T UP, BUT ...
BUT STILL, IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH ...
A DEATH MATCH.
IF YOU LOSE THIS, YOU'LL BE CRIPPLED FOR LIFE. YOU SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR THAT.

THE REALITY OF THE P TIME HERE DIDN'T QUITE CLICK INTO PLACE ALL THE WAY,
AND IT FELT LIKE A DREAM ABOUT 30 SECONDS IN.
THEY PROBABLY JUST WANTED TO GET OFF TH S SHIP A.S A.P ...
THEY'VE ALWAYS LOOKED AWAY FROM THE PROBLEM WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH
MY GUESS IS, UP TO NOW IN THEIR LIVES,
AT THEIR MOST EX-POSED MO-MENT,
YOU MIGHT HAVE NOTICED THAT WHEN THE PEOPLE JUST NOW WERE TAKEN AWAY..
THEY FELT FINE BEING DEFEATED, SINCE THEY WERE BE NG GENEROUS TO THEIR OPPONENT.
THAT'S JUST THEIR WAY OF COPING W THOUT GETTING SENTIMEN-TAL
THEY JUST LOOKED AWAY SHEE-PISHLY
ALL THEY DO IS PLAY THE GAME IN THE FAMILIAR FASHION .
IN OTHER WORDS ...
WHETHER OR NOT THEY WIN,
THEY'LL SURE BE SURPRISED WHEN THEY WAKE UP FROM THAT DREAM, REGARD-LESS OF WHAT HAPPENS AFTERWARDS.
KHU-HU-HU ..
AFTER ALL, THIS MATCH IS THE SINGLE MOST MPOR-TANT GAME OF THEIR LIVES!
THEY WOULD NEVER JUST LEAVE THE WHOLE THING UP TO CHANCE!
FIGURING OUT THE PROBABILITY OF SUCCESS IS JUST A BIG WASTE OF TIME!
AND BY LEAVING T ALL UP TO CHANCE, THEY'VE SEALED THEIR FATES AS PETS TO THE GROUP BEHIND THIS WHOLE THING.
IF THEY WANTED TO STAY AS PEOPLE,
THEY DON'T TH NK, THEY JUST JUMP IN .. AND YOU CAN SEE WHAT GOOD THAT DID FOR THEM.
THEY LEFT EVERYTHING UP TO CHANCE FROM START TO FINISH

YOU... HOW DO YOU KNOW ME?!
KHU-HU-HU ...
AM I RIGHT, KAIJI-SAN?

I THOUGHT TO MY-SELF, "THIS KID COULD GO FAR"!
YOU TOOK THE UPPER LIMIT, AS WELL.
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WENT AFTER ME, AND W THOUT HESITAT NG FOR A SECOND
BACK WHEN EVERYONE WAS PICKING HOW MUCH MONEY THEY WANTED,

WE BOTH REMEM-BER EACH OTHER!!
HOW VERY EX-CITING!
.....
.....
DO YOU REMEM-BER ME, TOO?
SO, HOW ABOUT YOU?
WHOAHHH!!!
... FUNAI ...

WHO ARE YOU TO GET ALL BUDDY-BUDDY WITH ME, HUH?!
KHU-HU-HU...
CAN IT, MORON!
YEAH, FANTASTIC, JUST FANTASTIC!!
ISN'T IT GREAT THAT WE WERE ABLE TO MEET UP LIKE THIS?

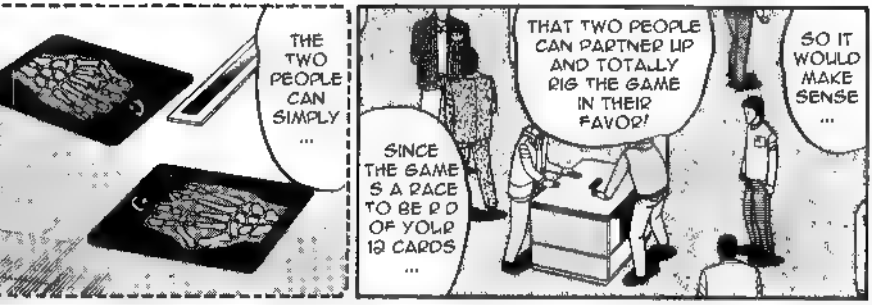
HUH?
YOU AND ME!
WHAT SAY WE TEAM UP WITH EACH OTHER?
KAIJI-SAN...
PLEASE, DON'T SAY SUCH THINGS!

CAN BE WON, 100% GUARANTEED!
THIS GAME...
AND AS LONG AS YOU GET A GOOD ONE,
TO TELL THE TRUTH, YOU REALLY DO NEED A PARTNER TO SURVIVE THIS GAME..
THAT'S RIGHT!
TEAM UP?

THAT'S RIDICU-LOUS!
YOU BET!
WE CAN REALLY SURVIVE TH S IF WE TEAM UP?
UH - HUH!
SERIOUSLY ...?!

.....
THE GOALS OF THE GAME, IN OTHER WORDS?
DO YOU REMEMBER THE COND TIONS THAT WE NEED TO FULFILL...
I DON'T BELIEVE IT FOR A SECOND!
KAIJI - SAN .
AND ...?
YOU NEED TO LSE JP ALL OF YOUR CARDS ...

TO HAVE THREE STARS AT THE END..
YOU GOT IT!
ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS HAVE THOSE THREE STARS LEFT AT THE END!
YOU DON'T NEED FOUR.. JUST KEEPING WHAT YOU HAVE WILL SUFFICE FOR A WIN
THAT'S ALL YOU REALLY NEED TO DO

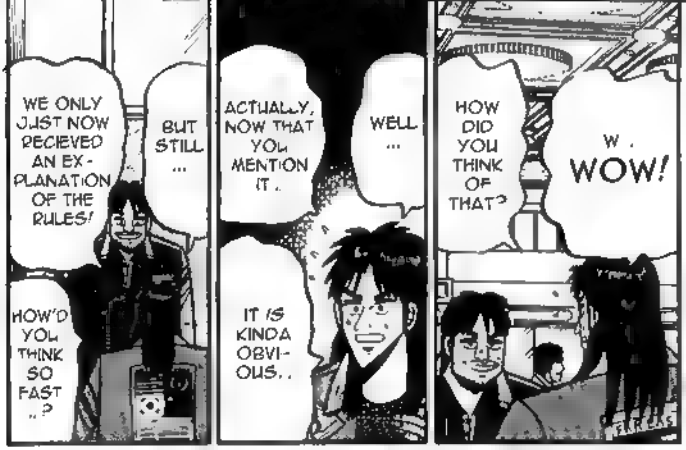

SO IT WOULD MAKE SENSE ...
THAT TWO PEOPLE CAN PARTNER UP AND TOTALLY RIG THE GAME IN THEIR FAVOR!
SINCE THE GAME S A RACE TO BE R D OF YOUR 12 CARDS ...
THE TWO PEOPLE CAN SIMPLY ...

...PLAY THE SAME CARDS OVER AND OVER TO MAKE FOR 12 CONSECUTIVE DRAWS...
AND THAT WOULD FULFILL ALL THE CONDITIONS!
THREE STARS, NO CARDS!!

WHOAHHHHHH!!!

CHAPTER 第7話 END 終

CHAPTER 8 - SCAM
第8話「裏技」


WE ONLY JUST NOW RECIEVED AN EXPLANATION OF THE RULES!
BUT STILL ...
HOW'D YOU THINK SO FAST ..?
ACTUALLY, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT..
WELL ...
IT IS KINDA OBVIOUS..
HOW DID YOU THINK OF THAT?
W. WOW!

HAH-HAH ...
FOR YOU TO COME UP WITH THAT 'N SUCH A SHORT TIME UNDER PRESSURE...
I MEAN, JUST ABOUT EVERYONE GOT CAUGHT UP IN THE HEAT OF THE GAMBLE...

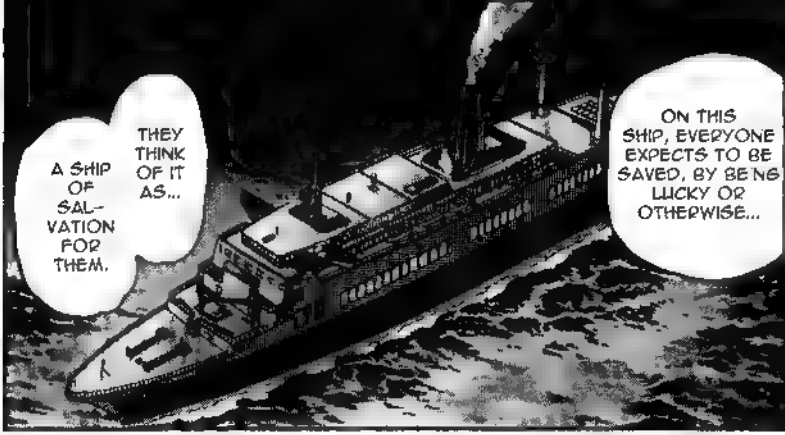
THEY CAN LIVE IF THEY DRAW FOR 12 SUCCESSIVE ROUNDS ...

THAT'S SO UNFAIR ...!
WHY WOULD THEY DO THAT?!
HMM-HMM-HM.
OH, STOP THAT.
I CAN SEE WHERE YOU'RE COMING FROM, BUT..

RIGHT NOW, WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE TALKING ABOUT THAT ...
TIME IS MONEY, AFTER ALL!
MORE IMPORTANTLY FOR R SHT NOW, DO YOU GET WHAT I WAS SAYING ABOUT MY PLAN?
KAIJI-SAN?

.....
YEAH ...
HEH-HEH-HEH ...
TO FOLLOW UP WHAT I SAID ...
WITH TWO PEOPLE TEAMING UP TO TIE FOR 13 STRAIGHT ROUNDS,
THEY CAN BOTH SURVIVE.

BUT STILL, R SHT FROM THE START,
SOME PEOPLE THINK THAT THEY'LL BE SOME KIND OF HERO.
THEY ALL THOUGHT THAT THEY WERE THE ONES...
WHO COULD TAKE THE LEAD ...
OVER-COMING BAS C HUMAN NATURE!

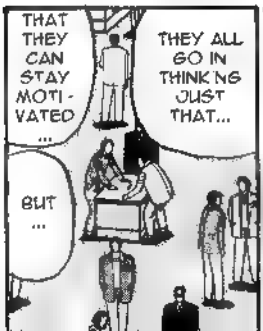

ON THIS SHIP, EVERYONE EXPECTS TO BE SAVED, BY BEING LUCKY OR OTHERWISE...
THEY THINK OF IT AS...
A SHIP OF SAL-VATION FOR THEM.

KAIJI-SAN,
IN THE END, REAL HEROES INTERESTED IN HELPING OTHERS HAVE NEVER EMERGED..

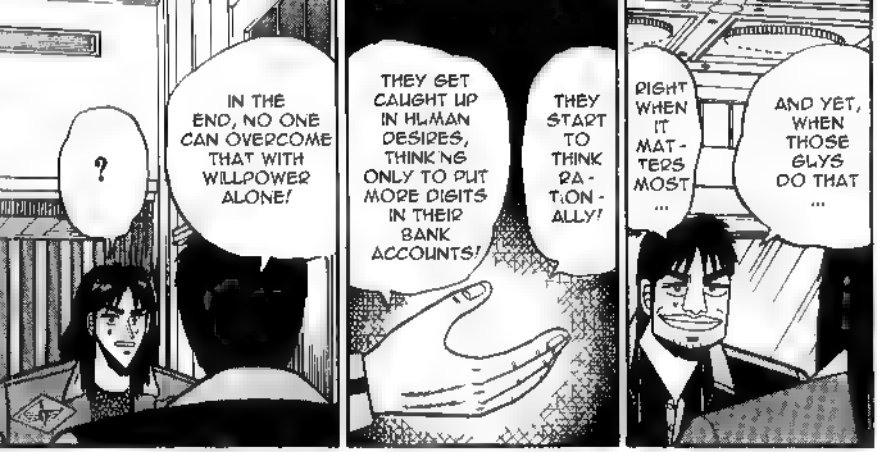
AND N THIS ONE, TOO ...
BUT, OVER THE PAST TWO CRUISES,

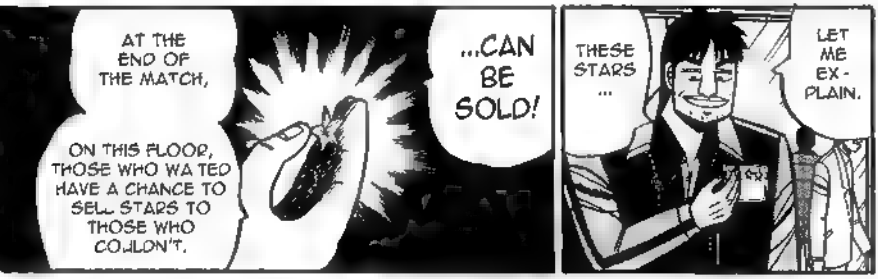
THAT CAN'T BE IT!
NO WAY!
BECAUSE THEY DON'T KEEP THEIR MOTIVATION UP FOR LONG ENOUGH?

WHY DO YOU THINK THAT IS?

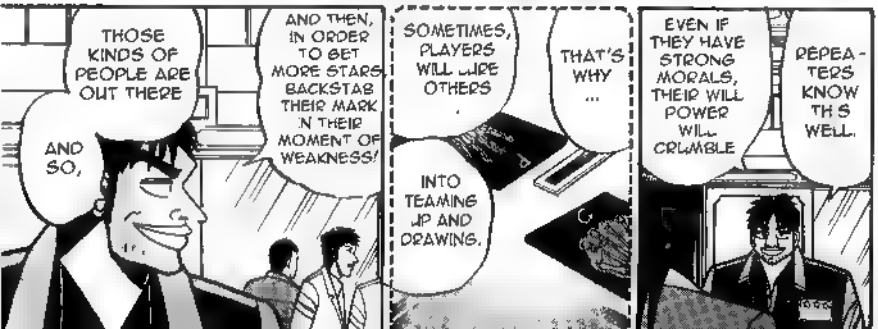

THAT THEY CAN STAY MOTI-VATED ...
THEY ALL GO IN THINKING JUST THAT...
BUT ...

RIGHT FROM THE VERY START,
HOW MANY REPEATERS DO YOU THINK HAVE TRIED TO DO IT?


?
IN THE END, NO ONE CAN OVERCOME THAT WITH WILLPOWER ALONE!
THEY GET CAUGHT UP IN HUMAN DESIRES, THINKING ONLY TO PUT MORE DIGITS IN THEIR BANK ACCOUNTS!
THEY START TO THINK RATIONALLY!
RIGHT WHEN IT MATTERS MOST ...
AND YET, WHEN THOSE GUYS DO THAT ...

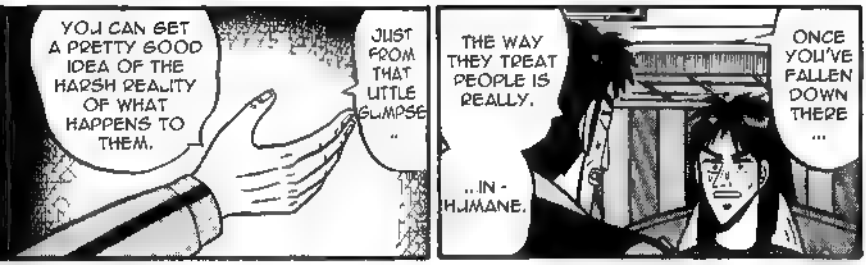

AT THE END OF THE MATCH,
ON THIS FLOOR, THOSE WHO WATCH HAVE A CHANCE TO SELL STARS TO THOSE WHO COULDN'T.
...CAN BE SOLD!
THESE STARS ...
LET ME EXPLAIN.

WELL, THERE'S YOUR ANSWER!
THE TRUTH IS THAT IT ALWAYS HAPPENS!
YOU WERE ASKING ABOUT WHAT THE MONEY IS USED FOR ...
EACH STAR CAN GET YOU SEVERAL MILLION YEN!
THERE IS TIME TO BUY AND SELL STARS!


THOSE KINDS OF PEOPLE ARE OUT THERE
AND SO,
AND THEN, IN ORDER TO GET MORE STARS, BACKSTAB THEIR MARK IN THEIR MOMENT OF WEAKNESS!
SOMETIMES, PLAYERS WILL LURE OTHERS
INTO TEAMING UP AND DRAWING.
THAT'S WHY ...
EVEN IF THEY HAVE STRONG MORALS, THEIR WILL POWER WILL CRUMBLE
REPEATERS KNOW THIS WELL.

THOSE SLIMY TRAITORS ARE SCATTERED ABOUT THIS SHIP
THEY'D JUMP AT THE CHANCE TO FINISH SOMEONE OFF IN ONE BLOW!
WHEN YOU CAN EASILY BETRAY AND GET MUCH MORE MONEY?
I MEAN, WHO COULD STAY MOTIVATED TO DO GOOD
THE ONLY REASON ANYONE IS EVEN ON THIS SHIP
IS BECAUSE THEY'RE AFTER THEIR OWN, PERSONAL GAIN THEY WOULDN'T HELP WITHOUT REASON
SIMPLY UNREALISTIC.
THIS STRATEGY OF DRAWING 12 TIMES IS RATHER IMPRACTICAL IN THE END ...
THERE'S A SURE-FIRE WAY TO MAKE IT OUT ALIVE, BUT THERE IS NO SUCH GUARANTEE FOR MAKING MORE STARS!
IN THIS GAMBLE,
NO GOOD CAN COME OF IT!
SO, IF EVERYONE FIGHTS, CLOSE TO HALF WILL DIE!
AFTER THAT'S DONE,
YOU'RE FINISHED!
YOU'D THINK THAT, BUT ...
THAT ALWAYS COMES FIRST!
JUST FOCUS ON MAKING IT OFF THIS SHIP ALIVE!
YOU NEED TO AIM TO WIN!
THERE'S TOO MUCH AT STAKE TO LET SUCH A HUGE RISK DECIDE YOUR FATE!
THERE WOULD BE NO HOPE FOR YOU!
AND IF BY CHANCE YOU WERE UNABLE TO WIN FROM THAT POINT ON,

THEY GIVE YOU A GLIMPSE AT WHAT YOUR FATE WILL BE IF YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH STARS..
AT THE END OF THE GAME, WHEN THE TRADE OF STARS BEGINS,
IT'S REALLY A SAD SIGHT TO BEHOLD
IT'S PART OF THE TRADE.
WE'D JUST BE THROWN ABOUT LIKE RAG DOLLS ...
IF THAT OLD MAN TONE-GAWA IS TO BE BELIEVED ...
AS FOR HOW YOU'LL BE TREA-TED F YOU LOSE ...


YOU CAN GET A PRETTY GOOD IDEA OF THE HARSH REALITY OF WHAT HAPPENS TO THEM.
JUST FROM THAT LITTLE GLIMPSE ..
THE WAY THEY TREAT PEOPLE IS REALLY.
.. IN-HUMANE.
ONCE YOU'VE FALLEN DOWN THERE ...

?.....
THEY SAY YOU'D TURN INTO A CRIPPLE WITHIN ONE OR TWO YEARS
WE'D BE SHIPPED OFF AS LAB RATS FOR DEVELOPING MEDICINE..
RUMOR HAS IT .
AND SOLD OFF TO THE SEX INDUSTRY.
YOU'D BE PUT IN CHAINS ...
OR POS-SIB-LY ...

WE'D EARN A BIT OF MONEY OVER TIME.
HUH. ?!
THAT WOULD MAKE SENSE.
YOU THINK THEY'D TURN THE PEOPLE *HERE* INTO WHORES?!
EX-ACTLY
YOU MEAN, LIKE, PROSTI-TUT.ON?!

I'M SURE THAT NORMAL CONSENTUAL SEX ISN'T ENOUGH FOR SOME PEOPLE. ...
BESIDES, THERE'S PEOPLE WHOSE CONSCIENCES WERE BROKEN LONG AGO.
SO WHAT'S THERE TO THINK ABOUT? I'M SURE YOU GET THAT MUCH.
IT'S SINK OR SWIM. IF WE CAN'T EARN ENOUGH, WE'D BE DOING IT ALL OUR LIVES

YOUNG, HEALTHY BODIES TO DO THE DIRTY WORK.
WE'D BE VERY DE-SIR-ABLE ...
OR PROSTI-TU-TION ...
EITHER WAY, BE IT THE DEVELOPING MEDICINE TESTING PATH..
WITH THAT IN MIND, DOESN'T IT MAKE SENSE?
THIS SHIP MOSTLY HAS YOUNG MEN ON IT, RIPE FOR THE PICKINGS.
I THINK SO, AT LEAST.

LISTEN, KAIJI-SAN.
BUT WE NEED TO PREPARE OURSELVES FOR THE ABSOLUTE WORST...
I DON'T KNOW FOR SURE ...
Seriously ?

I WAS ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE BEST POSSIBLE PARTNER!
FROM THE MOMENT I BOARDED THIS SHIP ...
I THINK YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES!
AND FROM OBSERVING ...
THEN OUR DEBTS WOULD BE CLEARED!
JUST MAKE IT EASY ON YOURSELF AND SURVIVE WITH DRAWS!
ISN'T THAT ENOUGH?!
WE CAN'T LOSE, HERE ...
WE'VE ONLY GOT ONE SHOT!
SO DON'T GET GREEDY ON ME!

YOU QUICKLY DISTANCED YOURSELF!
EVEN AFTER THAT WORTHLESS SPEECH FROM TONEGAWA,
YOU DIDN'T LET IT GET TO YOU!
YOU KEPT YOUR COOL!

YOUR FOCUS ON PURELY MAKING T OUT OF THIS ALIVE!
AND THAT WAS YOUR LACK OF CONCERN WITH THE IMMEDIATE LOSS OR GAIN.

IT SHOWED SOMETHING
WHEN YOU BORROWED THE UPPER LIMIT ON THE MONEY RIGHT AFTER ME,

YOU GET WHY THIS IS CRUCIAL!
YOU'RE THE ONE!

HUH ..?
I THINK IT'S A GREAT IDEA, BUT.. THINKING ABOUT IT, THERE'S A PROBLEM FOR ME!

ABOUT THAT.
WELL, SEE ...

LET'S SURVIVE THIS GAME, TOGETHER!
RIGHT, KAIJI-SAN?
UH ...

SO ...
BACK THEN, I BORROWED A WHOLE 10 MILLION YEN!

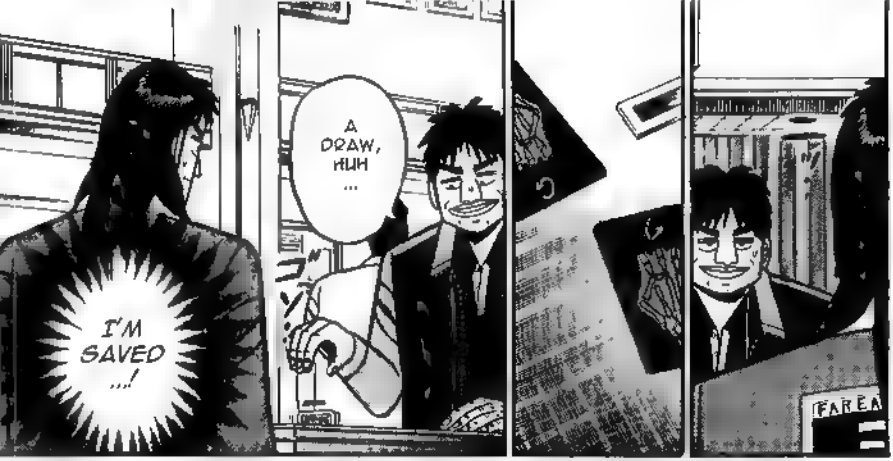
YOU DON'T GET IT AT ALL, DO YOU?
KAIJI-SAN ...
JESUS!
I'D HAVE MORE DEBT THAN I DID BEFORE ...
ONLY THE DEBT OF 3.85 MILLION I ALREADY HAD WOULD GET CANCELED ...
SO, THAT SAID ...
ONCE THE GAME'S OVER, I'LL HAVE TO PAY 4 MILLION IN INTEREST!
SO, IF WE GET OUT OF HERE QUICKLY,
THERE WILL BE LESS INTEREST, TOO!
HE SAID IT'D GROW EVERY 10 MINUTES, SO ONLY WHEN 10 MINUTES PASS WILL IT TICK UP TO THE NEXT LEVEL!
YEAH ...
DON'T YOU REMEMBER THAT HE SAID IT WOULD ONLY COMPOUND EVERY 10 MINUTES?
WHICH IS WHY I KEEP SAYING..
THAT'S RIGHT!
300 000?
EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!
TIME IS MONEY!
AND THAT WAY, WE'LL ONLY HAVE AROUND 300,000 YEN IN INTEREST, EACH!
YOU GET IT?
WE CAN END IT ALL IN UNDER 20 MINUTES IF WE HURRY!
THAT IS TO SAY,
10 MILLION WOULD ONLY BE COMPOUNDED BY 1.5% TWICE!
TIME
3:44:15

THE MATCH!

DON'T MESS TH S UP.
LISTEN ..

WE'LL JUST MAKE IT IN TIME TO AVOID ANOTHER 10 MINUTES ADDED ON
IN OTHER WORDS
IT WON'T TAKE 2 MIN - UTES.
DO IT JUST LIKE THAT FOR ALL 12 ROUNDS ...
ROCK SCISSORS PAPER
THIS IS THE OR- DER

SET!
CHECK!
OKAY, HERE WE GO!
OPEN!


A DRAW, HUH ...
I'M SAVED ...!
FAREA

I'M IN LUCK.
I'M THANKFUL THAT I GOT TO MEET HIM!
FUNAI-SAN IS A GREAT GUY.
BUT EVEN THOUGH I'M IN THE PITS OF HELL ..
THIS WAS A DEMONIC CRUISE.
THE HEAVENS HAVEN'T FORSAKEN ME, YET!

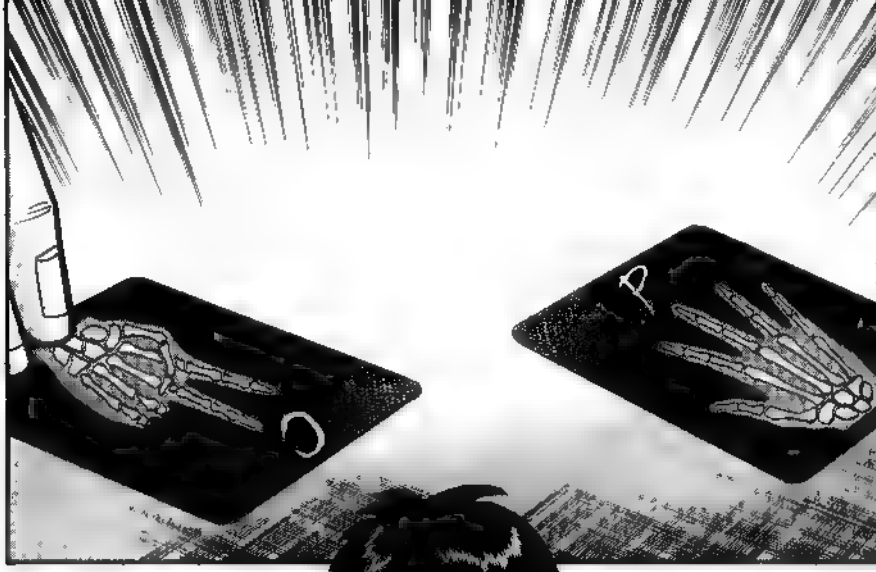
NINE ROUNDS OF TIES LATER.
ENDING IT SECURELY LIKE THIS IS FOR THE BEST.
RIGHT WHEN YOU LOSE, RECOVERY BECOMES IMPOSSIBLE.
I DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO FIGHT A SINK-OR-SWIM BATTLE WITH JUST ANYONE!
ON SUCH A HORRID CRUISE
ARE USING UP THEIR CARDS NEATLY
BOTH KAIJI AND FUNAI ...
THIS GAMBLE MAKES SURE OF THAT.
WOULDN'T WORK AT ALL, IN ALL LIKELYHOOD.
TRYING TO GET RICH QUICK ...

SET.
IT IS NOW THE 10TH ROUND ...
OPEN
KAIJI-SAN!!
I'M SO SORRY!
HOW THE HELL ...
WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH ME?!
..COULD I MAKE SUCH A STUPID MISTAKE ?!
GOD... DAMMIT!!
HUH...?

I'M SORRY, I'M SO SORRY!!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME!!
UH ...
THANK-FULLY, THERE'S STILL A WAY!!
I CAN FIX IT!
HOW ABOUT THIS ...!
I'LL USE ...

I'LL USE THIS ONE NEXT!
KAIJI-SAN, PLEASE WIN AGAINST THIS CARD!
OH ...
SURE ...
AT THAT TIME,

AND THEN, SAYING IT WAS JUST A FORMALITY IN FRONT OF THE BLACK-SUITS.
FUNAI SHOWED KAIJI HIS "ROCK" CARD...
TOOK HIS STAR FROM HIM
WHY DID HE DO THAT...?
CHECK!
SET!
IF ONLY HE HAD PUT JUST A BIT MORE THOUGHT INTO IT BACK THEN...!
OPEN!



WH..
WHY
...?!
GUH
...!

IT TOOK EVERY DAY SINCE I WAS SCHEDULED TO BE ON THIS CRUISE ...
I PRACTICED.
KHU-HU-HU ...!
THE ONE THAT I DIDN'T SHOW THEM...!
AND THEN LEAVING BEHIND ...
IN ORDER TO SHOW ONE TO MY OPPONENT ...
PUTTING TWO CARDS TOGETHER PERFECTLY ...
WAIT UP, FUNAI ...
WA ...
THANKS A LOT FOR EVERYTHING!
I'M AFRAID I MUST BE OFF.
WELL, THEN.
A PRETTY NICE TRICK, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF
HMM-HM-HM ...
HMM?
WHAT .. THE HELL JUST HAPPENED .?!

WITH THAT IN MIND, WHAT DID YOU EXPECT?
EACH OF THESE STARS OF YOURS CAN BE SOLD FOR UPWARDS OF SEVERAL MILLION YEN A POP!
YOU CAN SELL ANY EXTRA STARS YOU HAVE
I THOUGHT FOR SURE I TOLD YOU
ARE YOU NOT FULLY AWAKE, YET?
NOW, NOW...
WELL, I SUPPOSE IT MIGHT BE TOO LATE TO CHANGE COURSE NOW.
HMM-HM-HM ...
UNLESS YOU WANT TO BE ROASTING IN THE FLAMES OF HELL FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE?
IF YOU CAN'T, THEN NOTHING WILL CHANGE FOR YOU.
KAIJI-SAN, YOU HAD BETTER WRAP YOUR HEAD AROUND WHAT THIS CRUISE IS REALLY FOR...
Funai
...
第8話 終
CHAPTER 8 - FIN

IT HAD ONLY BEEN 20 MINUTES INTO THE GAMBLE, AND HE WAS ALREADY AS GOOD AS DEAD ...

CHAPTER 9 - HOPELESS
第9話「絶命」

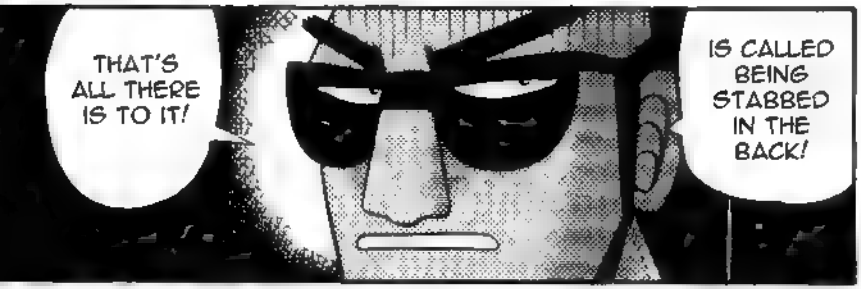
ARE YOU JUST GONNA WALK AWAY?!
WHAT YOU DID WAS PLAIN DIRTY!!
DON'T YOU FUCK WITH ME!!
IS IS THIS SOME KIND OF JOKE?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
GIVE 'EM BACK TO ME!! MY STARS!!
WHA-...?!
YOU BAS-TARD!!
パシ...
YOU'VE GONE FAR ENOUGH!
BREAK IT UP!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
STOP SHOUTING, YOU'RE EMBAR-RASSING BOTH OF US!
CALM DOWN!
urgh
BU.. BUT HE..
STOP THIS NOW!

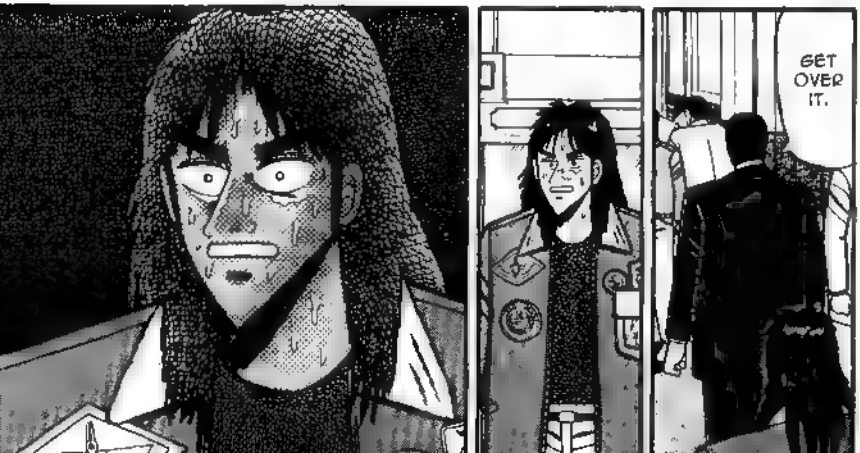
Th... That guy...
WHAT'S ALL THE COMMOTION ABOUT?
JUST WHAT'S GOING ON, HERE?
PULL YOUR-SELF TOGE-THER!
IN DEFEAT, AS WELL.
That guy... He...!
WHO ARE YOU TO ME?!
DUMB-ASS!!
MY "WORD" ?!
He went back on his word about drawing for 12 rounds...
TEARS RUN DOWN HIS FACE.
THAT'S ALL IT WAS!
YOU WERE JUST MY PREY, HERE!
MORON!
AND YOU'RE ACTING LIKE WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS FOR LIFE!
WE HAVEN'T EVEN BEEN TALKING FOR 10 FUCKING MINUTES,
THAT'S SO IMMA-TURE!!

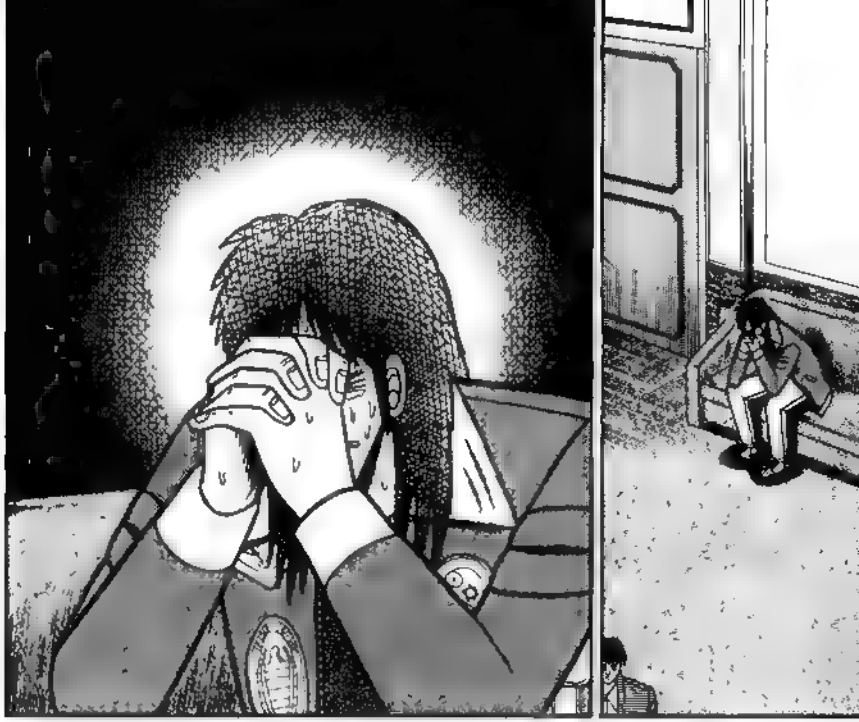
EASY, EASY!
WHAT WAS THAT?!
Wha-
YOU'RE TRASH BENEATH MY FEET!
VIOLENCE SIMPLY CAN NOT BE PERMITTED!
JUST GO YOUR SEPARATE WAYS, NOW!
KEH!
YOU, TOO! GET OUT OF HERE!
I WILL BE FORCED TO REMOVE YOU FROM THIS SHIP FOR GOOD!
IF YOU DON'T PUT A STOP TO THIS KIND OF BEHAVIOR,
MOVE ALONG!
HE'S ABSOLUTELY JUSTIFIED.
That's it...? You're not gonna-
Wha-...?
FAN EASY

huh ...?
THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO PROBLEM WITH WHAT HE DID.
What do you mean, no problem?! He-
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT HE DID
A BATTLE-FIELD!
THAT'S WHAT S CALLED ...
DEATH IS ALWAYS NEAR
ALL OF YOU ARE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIVES, OUT HERE
IS JUST A PART OF WAR!
BEING HIT UNFAIRLY OR UNEX-PECTEDLY ...
ON THE BAT-TLE-FIELD,
THEY'D BE THE LAUGHING-STOCK OF THE ARMY!
WHAT KIND OF UNPREPARED, IMMATURE SOLDER..
AND ON A BATTLE-FIELD,
WOULD COMPLAIN ABOUT BEING SHOT IN THE BACK?

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU JUST NOW.
THAT IS HOW A TRUE BATTLE IS FOUGHT!
IT'S ALL PART OF WARTIME TACTICS!
ANY WAY THEY NEED TO, WHETHER IT'S WHILE THE OPPONENT IS SLEEPING...
EVERY-ONE KNOWS THAT ...
OR CATCHING THEM BY SURPRISE ...


THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT!
IS CALLED BEING STABBED IN THE BACK!


GET OVER IT.



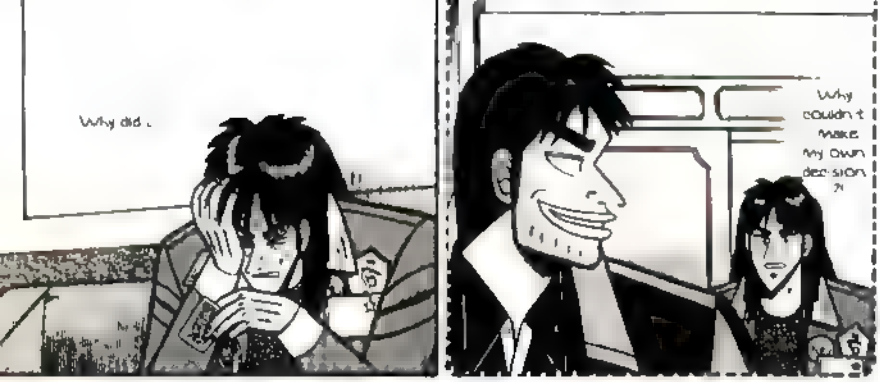
YEAH. IT'S BEEN ABOUT 15 MINUTES SINCE IT HAPPENED ..
IT'S BEEN A WHILE .
.....
BUT I'VE GOT TO THINK OF SOME - THING TO GET ME OUT OF THIS.
IT FEELS LIKE MY HEAD IS SPINNING RIGHT OFF MY NECK
DAZED AND CON- FUSED .
I'M RIGHT BACK TO SITTING IN THIS CHAIR..
ボロ

I'VE REALLY GOTTEN MYSELF INTO A MESS, HERE .
ONE SCISSORS CARD. . AND ONE STAR
WELL, OKAY.. WHAT DO I HAVE RIGHT NOW . .
NOTHING I CAN DO . .
WHAT COULD I EVEN THINK OF TO GET ME OUT OF THIS...
THERE'S NO HOPE FOR ME. .
AH...
TO CLIMB OUT FROM THIS PIT...
THREE STARS IS WAY TOO MUCH TO AIM FOR...
ONCE THEY GET THEM-SELVES TOGETHER, ANYONE COULD THINK MORE CLEARLY ...
AFTER THAT GREAT TIME, HIS WOUNDS HAD HEALED A LITTLE, AND AS A RESULT THE GEARS IN HIS HEAD BEGAN TO TURN...
WHILE SITTING ON THAT CHAIR FOR CLOSE TO TWENTY MINUTES ...
KAIJI ARRIVED ON A THOUGHT ...
WAIT ...!
AND REALIZE THAT THIS RESTRICTED ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS HAS A WAY TO MAKE IT BACK FROM EVEN 1 STAR...
.....

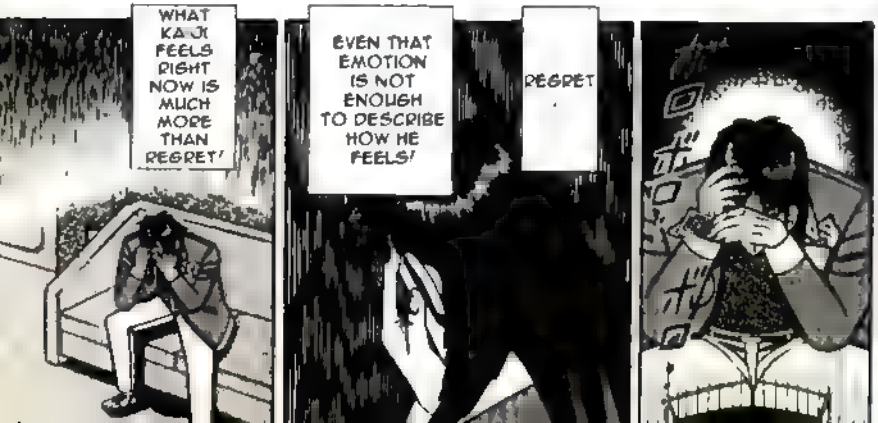
MONEY...!
MONEY IS JUST WHAT I NEED!
IN A PLACE LIKE THIS
I STILL HAVE MONEY!
THAT'S RIGHT ...!
I CAN GET THREE FOR SURE!
AND IF I CAN WIN ONCE WITH THIS LAST CARD I HAVE,
NO USE STRUGGLING FOR STARS NOW...
IN THAT CASE, I CAN JUST WAIT UNTIL THE END...!
A TRADE OF STARS AT THE END OF THE GAME ?
DIDN'T FUNAI SAY SOMETHING ABOUT

I CAN STILL MAKE IT!
WITH JUST THAT, I WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE IT OUT WITH LESS DEBT THAN THE 3.85 MILLION I HAD BEFORE...
WHEN I BUY THE STARS WITH MY MONEY, I'LL HAVE TO PAY IT ALL BACK, PLUS THE INTEREST FROM THE 10 MINUTE RATE.
.....
BUT ..
JUST BARELY, BUT I STILL CAN!
HECK, AND BEFORE THAT...
I WOULDN'T BE SAVED... MY DEBT WOULD ACTUALLY MULTIPLY!
THE 5 OR 6 MILLION YEN THAT I'D HAVE LEFT OVER WOULD BE ALL BUT WORTH-LESS
EVEN WITH THE EXTRA STAR, IT WON'T BE ENOUGH ..
THAT'S JUST UNREA-SONABLE!
FUCK.
UNLESS I CAN FIND A SAFER WAY, I'LL NEVER MAKE IT OUT OF HERE!
FOR ME AS I AM, THAT 1 IN 3 SHOT ISN'T NEARLY ENOUGH!
THE ODDS ARE JUST 1 IN 3...!
IT'S A FAR CRY FROM A SURE VICTORY ..
I NEED TO WIN WITH JUST THIS ONE CARD.

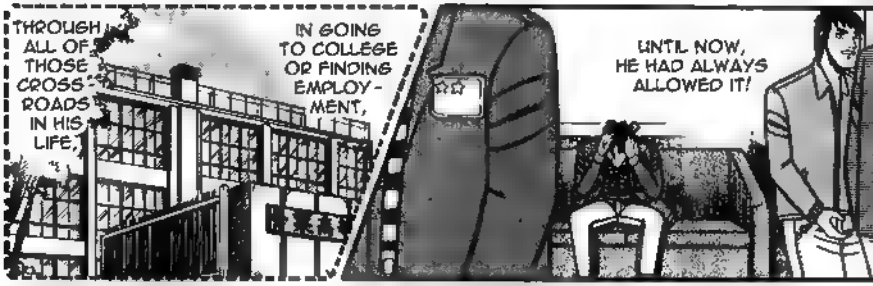
KHU HU - HU ...
THERE WOULD BE NO WAY TO RECOVER ...!!
I'LL BE FA - TALLY WOUN - DED!
IF I JUST WAIT AROUND FOR MY 2 STARS...
IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT
DAM MIT!
Why did I let him do that to me?!
IT MIGHT BE TOO LATE FOR YOU TO COME BACK!
WELL ...
Why couldn't I think for my self?!
I knew all that, but...
Extre- mely impor- tant!!
This match ...was crucial!!


Why did I...
Why couldn't I make my own decision?!

Why did I leave my fate in the hands of a total stranger..?!


WHAT KANJI FEELS RIGHT NOW IS MUCH MORE THAN REGRET!
EVEN THAT EMOTION IS NOT ENOUGH TO DESCRIBE HOW HE FEELS!
REGRET

THOUGH IT WAS NOT AS SEVERE,
THIS WAS NOT THE FIRST TIME THAT IT HAD HAPPENED!
BUT, IN ALLOWING HIMSELF TO THINK ON IT,


THROUGH ALL OF THOSE CROSS-ROADS IN HIS LIFE,
IN GOING TO COLLEGE OR FINDING EMPLOY-MENT,
UNTIL NOW, HE HAD ALWAYS ALLOWED IT!

I'm so dependant
I leave it all up to other people.
I can't do shit on my own...!!
When I need to make painful or difficult decisions.
Just give up!
THAT WAS HIS DISPOSITION!
HE LEFT THOSE PERSONAL DECISIONS UP TO OTHER PEOPLE EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

I've got that anchor weighing me down!!
For me, the bottom of the heap is right where I belong...
That weakness of mine
showed up at the most crucial of times
JUST LEAVE IT TO ME!
I'll never be able to recover!!
What an idiot I am
I'm hopeless...
I'VE GOT A SURE-FIRE WAY TO RAKE IN THE STARS!
DO WHAT I SAY, AND YOU'LL MAKE IT OUT OF HERE, NO SWEAT!

WHAT HE SAID CAN'T BE TRUE.
DOESN'T MATTER WHAT IT IS..
NO WAY IN HELL ..
ISN'T THAT OBVI-OUS?
IS TRYING TO TAKE YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU'RE WORTH!
RIGHT NOW, THAT MAN...
I WAS THAT HAPPY ABOUT A "WAY OUT" TOO
JUST A BIT AGO .
YOU'RE GETTING TRICKED, OSSAN!
JUST STEP BACK AND THINK ABOUT IT!
IT'S FUCKING CLEAR AS DAY!
SO MUCH FOR THAT .
WELL, REALLY IT'S... NOT ALL THAT HARD TO BELIEVE

THAT OSSAN COULDN'T THINK FOR HIMSELF.
IT'S HIS OWN DAMN FAULT, ANYWAY ..
CAN'T BE HELPED.
.....
THE IDIOTS DIE OFF FIRST, ON THIS SHIP
COULD HE BE ..!!
THAT MAN .
THAT GUY OVER THERE ..
HUH ..?
.....
HE FORCED ME TO COSIGN HIS DEBTS FOR HIM!!
A YEAR AGO..

FURUHATA!!

HE'S THE ONE WHO PUT ME HERE, TO BEGIN WITH!!

THAT MOTHER FUCKER!

ガク

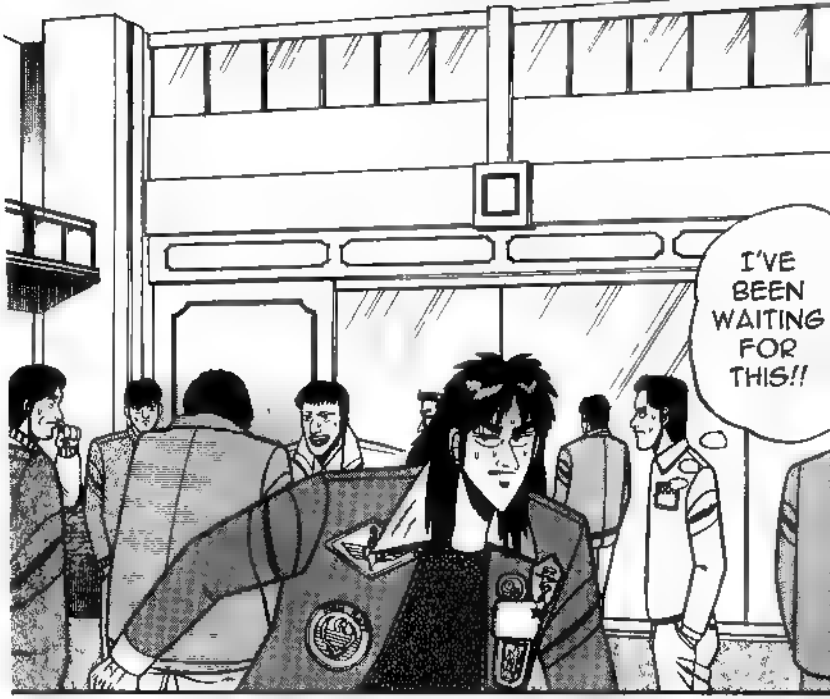
YOU'VE FALLEN DOWN HERE, TOO?

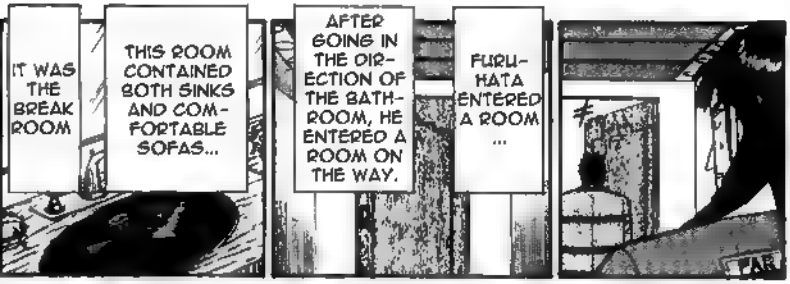
YOU WOUND UP ON THIS SHIP, TOO...!!

CHAPTER 9 - E.N.D.
第9話 終

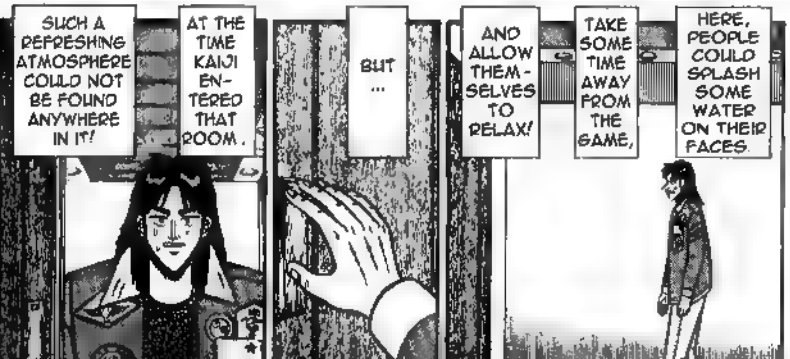
HE'S THE REASON I EVEN ENDED UP ON THIS STUPID SHIP!!
FURUHATA!!
NEVER WOULD'VE THOUGHT IN A MILLION YEARS
FALLEN DOWN HERE, TOO?
SO WHY WOULD HE HAVE ...
.....
TRYING TO ESCAPE, ARE YOU?!
THAT BAS-TARD!

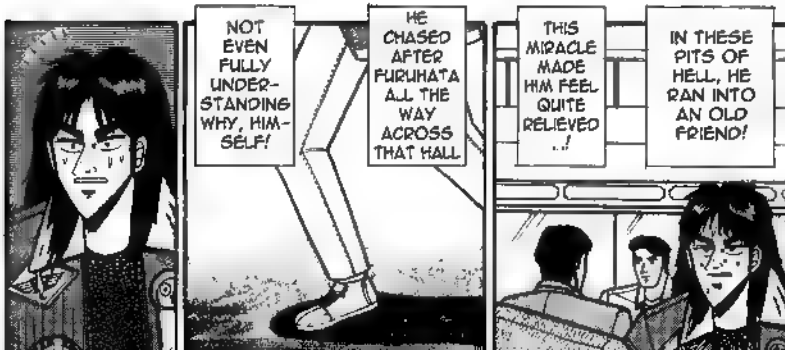
CHAPTER 10 - TEAMWORK
第10話「共闘」


I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS!!


IT WAS THE BREAK ROOM
THIS ROOM CONTAINED BOTH SINKS AND COMFORTABLE SOFAS...
AFTER GOING IN THE DIRECTION OF THE BATHROOM, HE ENTERED A ROOM ON THE WAY.
FURUHATA ENTERED A ROOM ...

IN ADDITION, HE FELT HAPPY ABOUT SEEING A FAMILIAR FACE ON THIS CRUISE!
BUT THAT WAS ONLY HALF OF HIS TRUE, HONEST MOTIVATION!
NATURALLY, HE WAS QUITE ANGRY ...
KAIJI GAVE CHASE!


SUCH A REFRESHING ATMOSPHERE COULD NOT BE FOUND ANYWHERE IN IT!
AT THE TIME KAIJI ENTERED THAT ROOM.
BUT ...
AND ALLOW THEMSELVES TO RELAX!
TAKE SOME TIME AWAY FROM THE GAME,
HERE, PEOPLE COULD SPLASH SOME WATER ON THEIR FACES.


NOT EVEN FULLY UNDERSTANDING WHY, HIMSELF!
HE CHASED AFTER FURUHATA ALL THE WAY ACROSS THAT HALL
THIS MIRACLE MADE HIM FEEL QUITE RELIEVED ...!
IN THESE PITS OF HELL, HE RAN INTO AN OLD FRIEND!

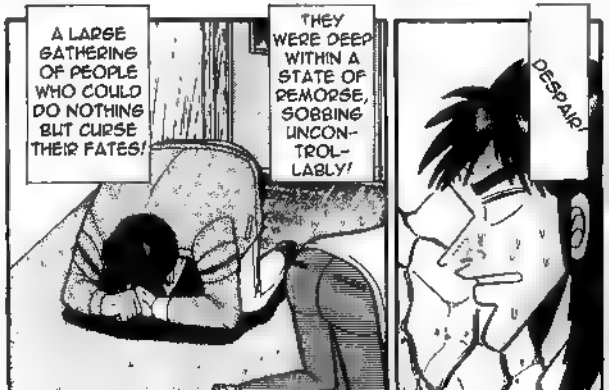
sniff
ohhhh

IT HAD BECOME A SEWER ...!!

THE ROOM OF LAMENTATION!!
あぁ…
う…

URGH

EVERYONE THERE FELT AS THOUGH THEIR SITUATION WAS IRREDEEMABLE!
FOUND THEMSELVES THERE, WASHED UP LIKE WOOD DEBRIS ON THE BEACH!


A LARGE GATHERING OF PEOPLE WHO COULD DO NOTHING BUT CURSE THEIR FATES!
THEY WERE DEEP WITHIN A STATE OF REMORSE, SOBBING UNCONTROLLABLY!
DESPAIR!

THOSE POOR SOULS FACING IMMINENT FAILURE ...

THOUGH HE WAS BETTER OFF THAN KAIJI,
HE WAS LEFT WITH FOUR CARDS AND A SINGLE STAR!
AMONG THOSE DOOMED PLAYERS, HE SAW FURUHATA!
AND THEN ...
HE, TOO, WAS FACED WITH IMMINENT DEFEAT!
HE WAS IN THE CLUTCHES OF DESPAIR!
GET GOING, FURUHATA.
huh ..?

IT'S FINE!
Back then, I...!
I I'm so sorry!!
YEAH.
Ka. Kaiji-San?!

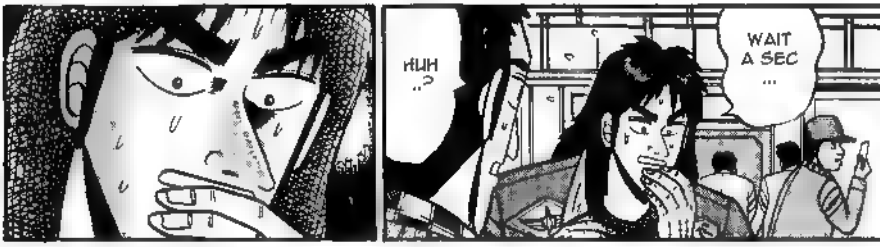
?
LET'S JUST GET OUTTA HERE!
WE CAN CATCH UP ON ALL OF THAT LATER!
RIGHT NOW WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THAT!

GET OUT!!
WE'RE COOL, JUST GET UP!
HUH ..?

HUH ..?
YOU'D HAVE ROTTED IF YOU STAYED IN THERE.
.....
I'M NOT REALLY IN A POSI-TION TO TALK BIG, BUT..
I WAS LIKE THAT JUST A SHORT WHILE AGO...
AREN'T SEEING ALL THE POSSI-BILITIES!
THOSE GUYS ...
THEY'RE BONA FIDE GARBAGE
IT'S REALLY AWFUL ...
ALL BY THEM-SELVES
THEY'RE CLOSING OFF ANY PATHS TO V CTORY THEY MAY HAVE LEFT..
JUST BY A LITTLE, BUT BECAUSE OF T, THOSE GUYS ARE LONG GONE ...
THEIR EMOTIONS HAVE BEEN CRUSHED ...
THEY THINK THEY'RE DONE FOR, BUT THAT'S REALLY NOT THE CASE

If they lose just once after this, it's all over!
Every-one is thinking about that!
FUFU-HATA ...
Kaiji-san,
You can't really blame them!
Most of them only have one star left!!
What ?
THEY'RE JUST GARBAGE IF THEY WON'T EVEN LOOK AT THEIR CHANCES
But..!
But!
But
WANT TO WORK TOGE-THER? YOU AND ME.
Huh ..?
MM-HMM.
THE TWO OF US ..?
WE'LL GET 6 STARS BETWEEN THE TWO OF US.
HUH ..?
.....
TWO MILLION ...
HOW MUCH MONEY D D YOU BORROW FROM THEM?

I'VE GOT 10 MILLION.
2 MIL ISN'T ENOUGH, BUT 10 MILLION IS.
WE CAN BUY SOME STARS WITH IT
WITH YOUR REMAINING CARDS, AND MY MONEY,
WE CAN JOIN FORCES AND-



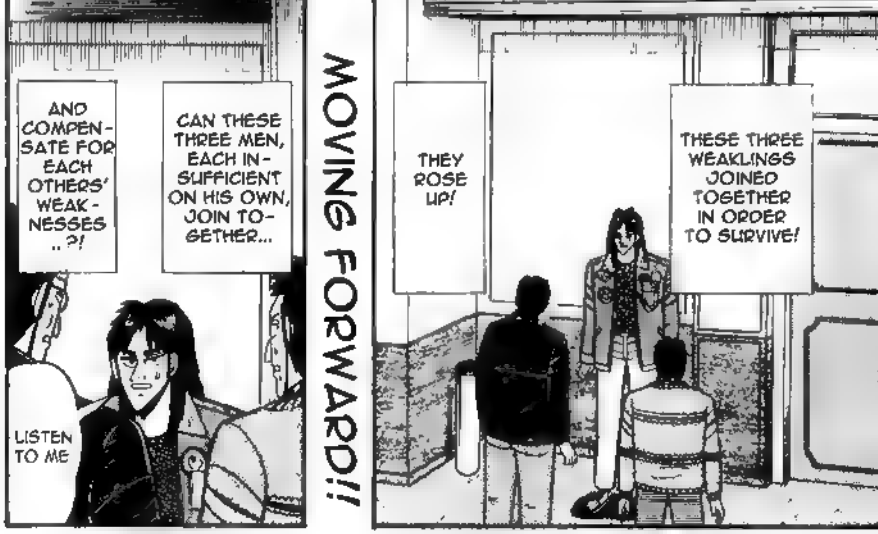
WE CAN MAKE IT EVEN BETTER...!

FIND SOME-ONE WITH TWO STARS AND NO CARDS ...

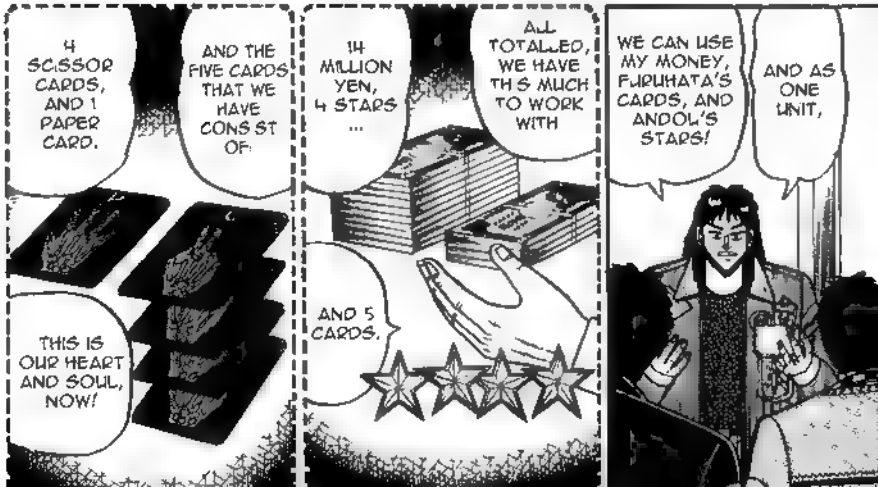
AH-HAH!
KAIJI-SAN!

A MAN THAT FIT ALL THE REQUIRE-MENTS THEY WERE LOOKING FOR ..
..SAT BEFORE THEM!
AS IF SOMEONE HAD PLACED HIM THERE JUST FOR KAIJI AND FURUHATA.

... TEAMED UP, EACH BEARING THE OTHERS' FATES ON THEIR BACK!
THESE THREE PEOPLE ...
HE WAS IN A DIFFERENT, YET EQUALLY DESPAIRING SITUATION FROM THEM!
TWO STARS AND NO CARDS!
THAT MAN'S NAME WAS ANDOU!


MOVING FORWARD!!
AND COMPEN-SATE FOR EACH OTHERS' WEAK-NESSES ..?!
CAN THESE THREE MEN, EACH IN-SUFFICIENT ON HIS OWN, JOIN TO-GETHER...
LISTEN TO ME
THEY ROSE UP!
THESE THREE WEAKLINGS JOINED TOGETHER IN ORDER TO SURVIVE!

THE THREE OF US SHARE THE SAME DESTINY!
THE THREE OF US THINK AND ACT AS ONE!
THE THREE OF US MAKE ONE PERSON
FROM NOW ON, NONE OF US CAN THINK FOR THEMSELVES


4 SCISSOR CARDS, AND 1 PAPER CARD.
AND THE FIVE CARDS THAT WE HAVE CONSIST OF:
THIS IS OUR HEART AND SOUL, NOW!
14 MILLION YEN, 4 STARS ...
ALL TOTALLED, WE HAVE THIS MUCH TO WORK WITH
AND 5 CARDS.
WE CAN USE MY MONEY, FURUHATA'S CARDS, AND ANDOU'S STARS!
AND AS ONE UNIT,

WE CAN'T GET ANY POINTLESS LOSSES!
AND THAT'S WHY.
SOMEHOW, WE NEED TO GET OURSELVES BACK TO WINNING!
TO GET 4 STARS BETWEEN THE 3 OF US!!
SOMEHOW, WE NEED TO TURN THIS AROUND...
WE CAN'T ALLOW OURSELVES TO BREAK DOWN AND CRY!
WE'RE IN A HORRIBLE SITUATION, BUT..
THAT'S HOW WINNERS DO THINGS! WINNERS!
WE'VE GOT TO THINK FOR OURSELVES!
AHH...
THAT DIMWITTED BEHAVIOR... HAS TO STOP!
JUST RELYING ON SHEER LUCK, INTUITION, AND CHARACTER WON'T DO IT ALONE!
ピシッ...
HOW CAN WE DO THAT...?
S... BUT...
.....
THREE OF US MIGHT HAVE A BETTER SHOT!
IF JUST ONE OF US DOESN'T HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE TO GET BY,
THAT'S WHY I BROUGHT EVERYONE TOGETHER!
WE'LL PUT OUR HEADS TOGETHER AND THINK OF A WAY OUT!
ALL THREE OF US!
WE NEED TO THINK OF THAT AS A GROUP!
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?!

UM.. WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
HUH?
ALL RIGHT...
LET'S JUST THINK ABOUT IT FOR A BIT
Y.. YEAH...
TO TAKE A LEAK.
DON'T WORRY
AH...
AS LONG AS WE PUT OUR MINDS TO IT.
WE'LL MAKE IT THROUGH...
HEH-HEH!

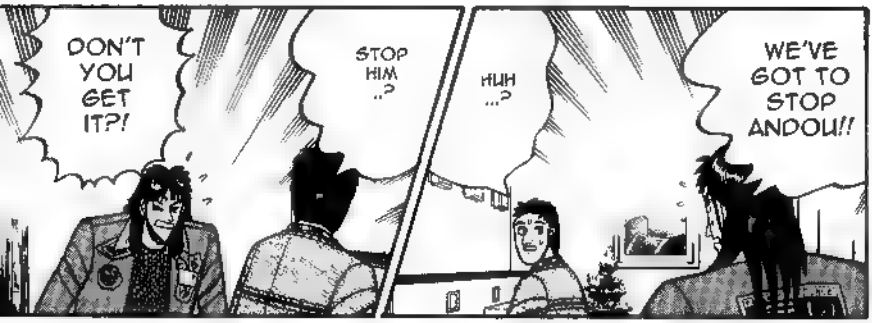
OH! ... UH ..
TH.S IS SO WEIRD
ONLY AFTER TAKING A GROUP PISS TOGETHER CAN A GROUP TRULY BEGIN TO CONNECT!!
KAIJI-SAN . !
ALL RIIGHT!
.....
IT'S JUST ...
I'M SORRY ...
I MEAN, REALLY, I COULDN'T DO TH S ON MY OWN.
SOMEHOW, THINGS ARE REALLY LOOKING UP FOR US!
YEAH!
HOPE ...?
I'M BEGIN-NING TO FEEL SOME HOPE!
SOME-HOW ...
THE SITUATION HASN'T REALLY CHANGED.
WE'RE JUST THREE BITS OF HUMAN TRASH PUT TOGETHER HAPHAZARDLY ..
HOPE-LESS
HOPELESS IDIOT.
.....
I GUESS
BUT, Y'KNOW, THREE HEADS ARE BETTER THAN ONE!

HAVING SUCH AN IDIOT FOR AN ALLY ...
IS THIS REALLY ALL RIGHT ...?

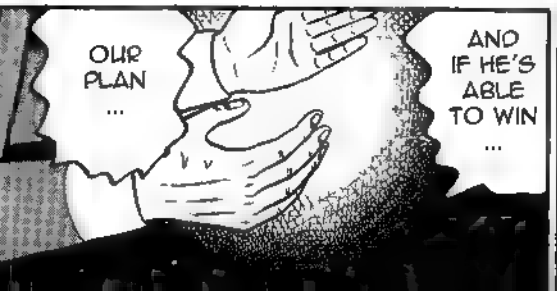
ANDOU-SAN ASKED IF HE COULD BORROW ONE OF THEM FOR SAFE KEEPING
YEAH...
DIDN'T YOU HAVE 4 CARDS JUST A LITTLE BIT AGO?
YES?
UH, FURU-HATA..

ガヴ
SURE!
AND YOU LET HIM ?!

COME WITH ME!!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING ..?
KAIJI-SAN. ?
KA ...


DON'T YOU GET IT?!
STOP HIM ..?
HUH ...?
WE'VE GOT TO STOP ANDOU!!

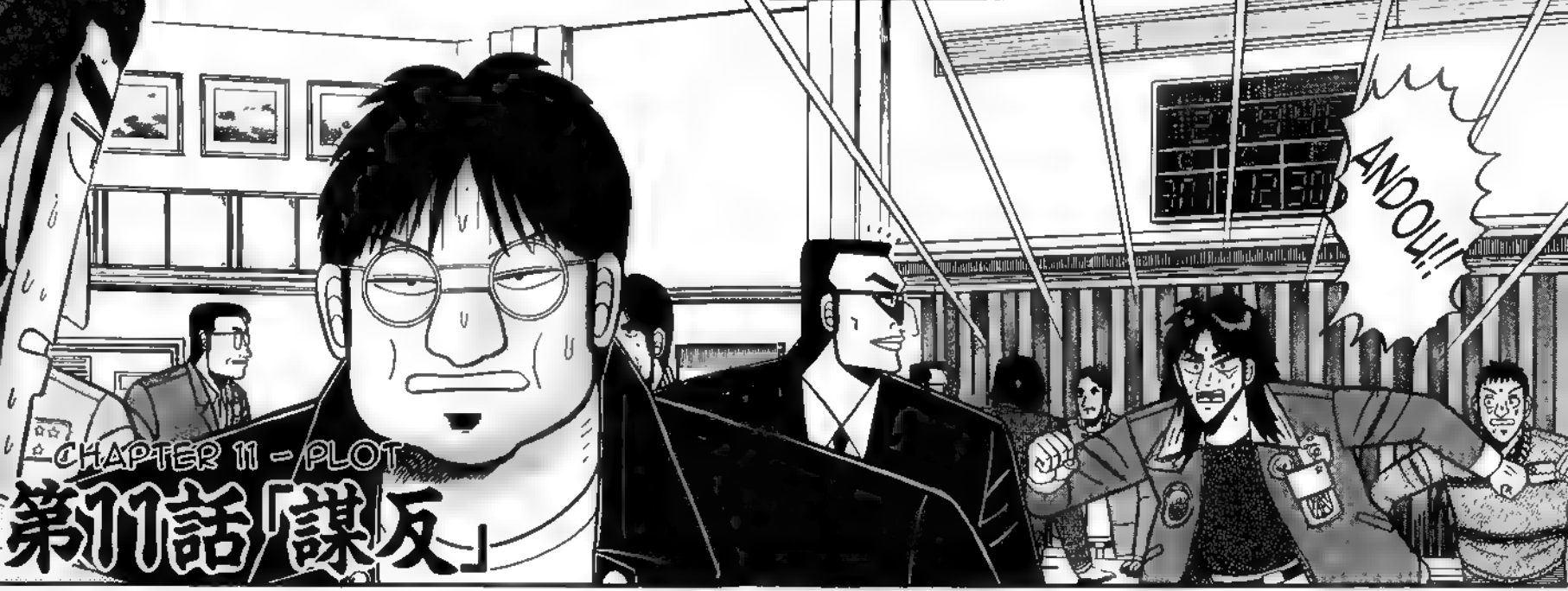
HE'S GONNA TRY AND END THE MATCH, NOW!
AND YOU GAVE HIM JUST WHAT HE NEEDED WITHOUT EVEN THINKING!!


OUR PLAN ...
AND IF HE'S ABLE TO WIN ...

RIGHT NOW, ONE CARD ...
ANDOU WAS THE ONE WITH TWO STARS AND NO CARDS!!
ALL HE NEEDS TO RECOVER IS ONE MORE CARD!!

ALL WE NEED TO DO IS GET 3 STARS FOR OUR-SELVES!!
WE'RE NOT FRIENDS!
OUR PLAN WILL GO RIGHT OUT THE WINDOW !!
I'VE GOT TO HURRY ...!
IDIOT!!
NO WAY!!
OF COURSE HE'D TRY TO GET THEM IF YOU GAVE HIM THE CHANCE!!
IT WAS SHEER STUPIDITY!!
HOW COULD I DO THAT?!
CHAPTER 10 - FIN...
第10話 / 終.....
FUCK...
FUCK...!
FUCK!!!
AN INSTANT AFTER WE FORMED, I WENT AND LEFT FURUHATA AND THAT FUCKER ALONE!!
I WAS SO DAMN CARELESS!!
I'M SUCH A FOOL...

IT WAS SO DAMN STUPID ..!!

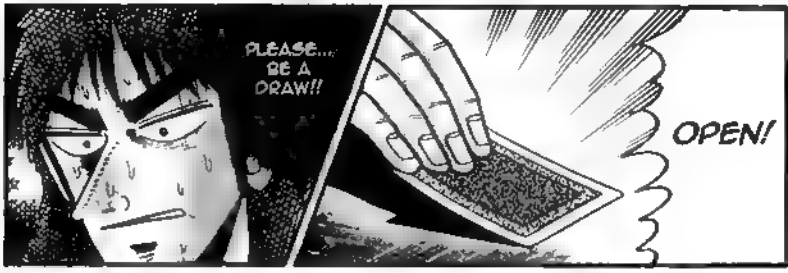


CHAPTER 11 - PLOT

第11話「謀反」

THAT'S HOW IT IS.. SO
IF HE LOSES, THAT IMPORTANT SECOND STAR WILL BE LOST!!
OR, EVEN WORSE.
WE'LL HAVE LOST HIM!
IF HE WINS, THAT WILL BE THREE STARS!
THIS IS BAD .

ALL WE'LL HAVE LOST WOULD BE ONE CARD!
IF IT'S A DRAW
HE'LL STILL HAVE 2 STARS, AND HE WON'T LEAVE!
SET!
IT NEEDS TO BE A DRAW ...!!


PLEASE... BE A DRAW!!
OPEN!

WE ACTUALLY MADE IT!!
A SCISSORS CARD MEANS IT'S A DRAW!!
YES..!!
.....
ﾊｰﾊｰﾊｰ...

GUH ...
NO WAY ..!!
WHAT ..!!
HOW ..?!
Kanji-san !
UGK ...!
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAGHHHHHH!!
THAT IDIOT ..!!
OF ALL THE THINGS

WITH THAT, THEIR ONLY PAPER CARD WAS GONE ...

SOMEHOW, I THOUGHT WE'D BE ABLE TO GET 5 STARS IF I DID THAT...
SOME-HOW ...
OH, SHUT UP!!
PLEASE ...
I'M SO SOR-RY!
THE SHADOW OF DEFEAT IS BACK ...
PLEASE FORGIVE ME!!

ANDOU WAS GETTING DESPERATE...
IT'S ALL JUST A BIG MISUNDERSTANDING!!
THA... THAT'S WRONG!!
He's just a traitor!
What point is there in keeping him now?
This guy only has one star left, now. We needed that extra star!
FURUHATA-SAN!!
KAIJI-SAN!!
PLEASE BELIEVE ME!!!
HE WOULD HAVE NO HOPE... SURVIVING WOULD BECOME AN IMPOSSIBLE TASK!
IF HE WERE THROWN OUT OF KAIJI'S GROUP AT THIS POINT ...
HE ONLY HAD 1 STAR AND 2 MILLION YEN, WITHOUT ANY CARDS...
AND ...
STOP CRYING ... YOU'RE MAKING ME S CK ...
IF NOTHING ELSE, BELIEVE ME ABOUT THAT!
ANDOU ...
BUT I NEVER MEANT TO BETRAY YOU!!
I APOLOGIZE FOR ACTING ON MY OWN ...
IF NOTHING ELSE,

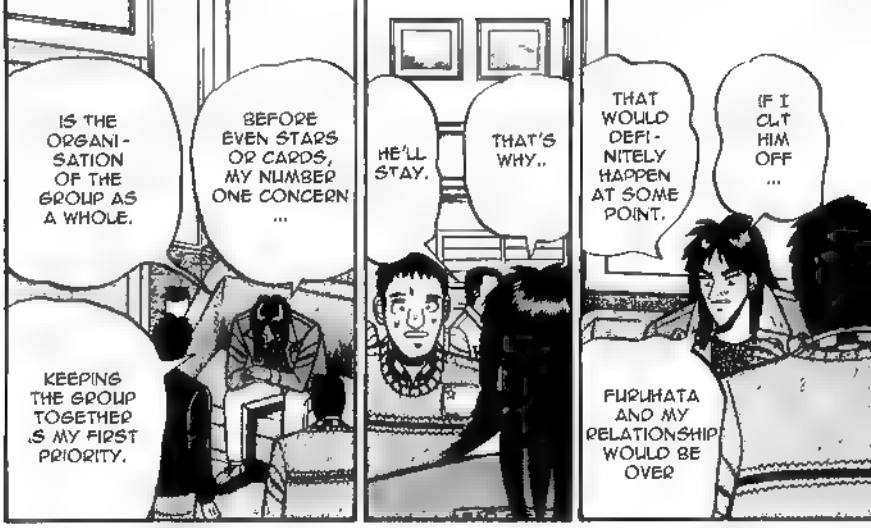
URGH ...
BACK THEN ...
DON'T TAKE US FOR FOOLS!
ON THE CONTRARY, YOU RUSHED TO START IT!
BUT YOU DIDN'T STOP IT ...
YOU STILL COULD HAVE STOPPED THE MATCH!
YOU HADN'T EVEN SAID "CHECK" YET.
WHICH MEANS ...
WHEN I TRIED TO STOP YOU ...
Kaji-san.
.....
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT IN MY MIND!
YOU WOULD HAVE BETRAYED US IF YOU WON, FOR SURE!
THERE'S NOTHING TO "BELIEVE"!
YOU CAN'T CHANGE WHAT I SAW...
BE-CAUSE YOU ...

Kaiji-san.
BUT ...
DON'T WORRY ...
I WON'T KICK YOU OUT.
WHA..?!
KAIJI-SAN!!

THERE WON'T BE ANY UNITY IF WE CHOP OFF ANY BAD PARTS THAT COME UP...

I KNOW YOU'RE AGITATED RIGHT NOW, FURUHATA ...
BUT OUR GROUP IS IN PIECES ...
IF WE CUT H.M OFF,
REGARDLESS OF WHY, THAT SIMPLE ACT OF CUTTING A MEMBER OFF FROM THE GROUP...
.WOULD LEAD YOU TO, SOMEDAY, FALL BACK AND THINK ABOUT THIS TIME.

YOU'D START TO THINK ...
THAT I'D ABANDON YOU IF IT WOULD MAKE THINGS BETTER FOR ME
THE THREE OF US SWORE THAT WE WOULD MAKE ONE UNIT..
AND THEN, JUST A SHORT WHILE LATER ...
THE GROUP IS TORN TO PIECES?


IS THE ORGANI-SATION OF THE GROUP AS A WHOLE.
BEFORE EVEN STARS OR CARDS, MY NUMBER ONE CONCERN ...
KEEPING THE GROUP TOGETHER IS MY FIRST PRIORITY.
HE'LL STAY.
THAT'S WHY..
THAT WOULD DEFI-NITELY HAPPEN AT SOME POINT.
IF I CUT HIM OFF ...
FURUHATA AND MY RELATIONSHIP WOULD BE OVER

Kaiji-san..!
.....
I CAN'T, NO MATTER HOW MUCH I WANT TO.
THEREFORE, I CAN'T GET RID OF HIM ...
SEOUL

AH ..!
IT'S NOT "CO-OPER-ATING"!!

The rest of us are work-ing hard
I'll do My Best
I'll co-operate starting now!!

Th..
Thank you so much!!
ボロ..ボロ..
SE OU

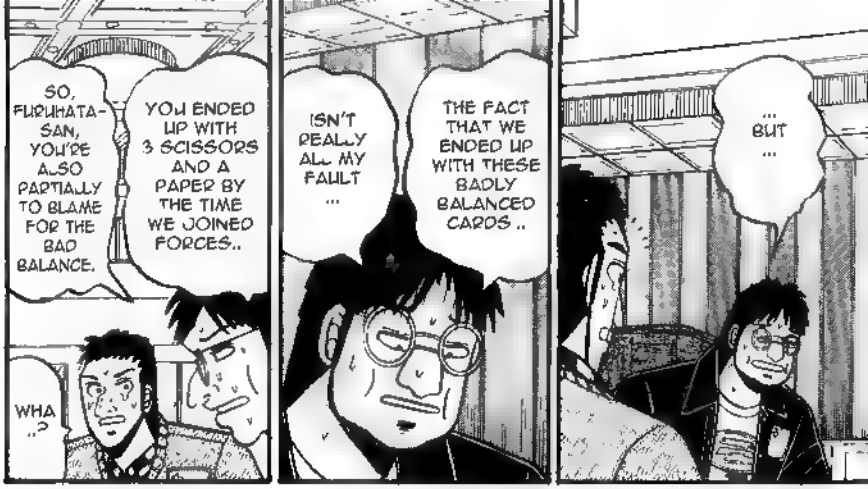
DON'T YOU GET HOW IMPORTANT MAKING ONE UNIT IS?!
DON'T YOU GET IT?!
THAT'S WHAT I'M SAYING!
WE CAN ONLY BARELY MAKE IT, NOW ...
WE'RE THREE SEP-ERATE ONES!
WE'RE NOT REALLY ONE PERSON ...
ユラ〜
NOT WHAT WE'RE DOING!!
THAT'S WHAT CO-OPER-ATING IS!
DO YOU THINK IT CAN STILL SURVIVE?!
IF A LION IS CUT IN THREE SEPERATE PIECES,
ONLY BARELY ...
FUCK, FUCK, FUCK ...
FUCK!
BUT HE AVOIDED HAVING TO SPLIT THE GROUP UP.
GOD DAMMIT ALL!!
ガロ…ガロ…
ガロ…
Gh..

THE CIRCUM-STANCES HE SPOKE OF AREN'T GETTING ANY BETTER AT THIS POINT...
THEIR PREDICAMENT IS FAR FROM OVER.
BUT ...
THE GROUP IS STILL TOGE-THER ...
THREE STARS, 14 MILLION YEN, AND FOUR CARDS!
AND TO TOP IT OFF, THE FOUR CARDS .
AT THIS CRITICAL TIME, THEIR ONLY RESOURCES ARE ..
.....
ARE ALL SCIS-SORS!
WHAT CAN I DO... WITH JUST THIS...
WITHOUT REALIZING IT, KAIJI BEGAN TO SIGH ..
HAHHHHHHHH...

AND YOU HAD TO GO AND WASTE IT!!
WE ONLY HAD ONE PAPER CARD LEFT ...
ANDOU, YOU'RE SUCH AN IDIOT...
HAHHHHHHHHH!
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO ...?!
ANYONE IS FINE JUST TELL ME!

BUT NOW, WITH THESE CARDS WE HAVE LEFT ...
WE HAVE TO WIN 3 TIMES BEFORE WE CAN EVEN LOSE ONCE!
WE HAD A WHOLE 14 MILLION YEN AND 4 STARS SAVED UP ...
HUH ..?
THIS IS REALLY SERIOUS!
DON'T YOU GET IT YET?!

YEAH ...
ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING IS ALL YOUR FAULT! YOU GET ME?!
HAVING NOTHING BUT SCISSORS AT THIS POINT IS JUST AN AWFUL SETUP!
AND ON TOP OF THAT, WE HAVE TO GET THREE WINS IN A ROW WITHOUT ANY SORT OF BALANCE!
DO YOU GET THAT MUCH, AT LEAST ?!
HOPING FOR 9 STARS AT THIS POINT IS JUST ABSURD!
DO YOU SEE HOW MUCH THAT SET IS BACK?!


SO, FURUHATA-SAN, YOU'RE ALSO PARTIALLY TO BLAME FOR THE BAD BALANCE.
YOU ENDED UP WITH 3 SCISSORS AND A PAPER BY THE TIME WE JOINED FORCES..
WHA ..?
ISN'T REALLY ALL MY FAULT ...
THE FACT THAT WE ENDED UP WITH THESE BADLY BALANCED CARDS ..
... BUT ...

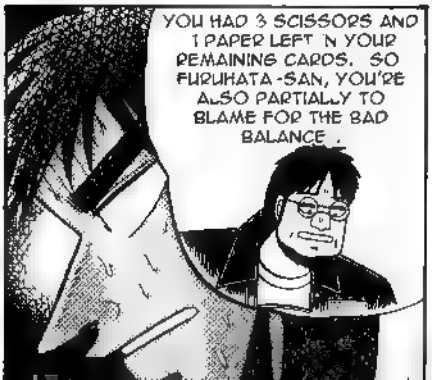
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY TO ME?!
WHAT DID YOU SAY...?!

HUH ..?
YOU MOTHER FU-
YOU WANNA SAY THAT AGAIN?!
SHH!

BALANCE ..?

KAIJI-SA-
SHUT UP!

INSIDE OF KAIJI'S MIND ...
THAT'S IT. BALANCE ...!
BALANCE..


YOU HAD 3 SCISSORS AND 1 PAPER LEFT IN YOUR REMAINING CARDS. SO FURUHATA-SAN, YOU'RE ALSO PARTIALLY TO BLAME FOR THE BAD BALANCE.

A SINGLE THOUGHT BEGAN TO EMERGE ...!
AND WITHIN THOSE INTERSEC-TIONS OF CARDS,
THE CARDS BEGIN TO INTERSECT NUMEROUS TIMES!
AND THEN ...
THAT OUT-STAN-DING THOUGHT ...
HUH ..?
THE DOOR IS OPE-NING...
AH...!
AND UNRAVEL THE KNOT!
BEGINS TO TUG AND PULL ...

THE DOOR TO VICTORY...!!

THAT BEAM OF LIGHT IS JUST LIKE..
A GUIDE TO THE SURVIVAL OF KAIJI AND THE OTHERS!
THE HEAVENS HAVE LEFT THEM A TRAIL LEADING TO...

第11話 終
CHAPTER 11 - FIN...

あなたは、この本を読んで、どんな感想をおもちになりましたか。

編集部では、この本についての読者のみなさまのご意見をおまちしています。

このつぎには、どんな作家のどんな漫画を読みたいと、お考えですか。「ヤンマガKC」にしてほしいと思う作品がありましたら、「読後の感想」とあわせて、左記あてに、どしどしお知らせください。

東京都文京区音羽2-12-21
(郵便番号112-01)
講談社「ヤングマガジン」編集部
ヤンマガKC係

(ヤングマガジン1996年第11号〜第21・22合併号の掲載分を収録しました。)

N.D.C. 726　222p　19cm

ヤンマガKC　608

カイジ①

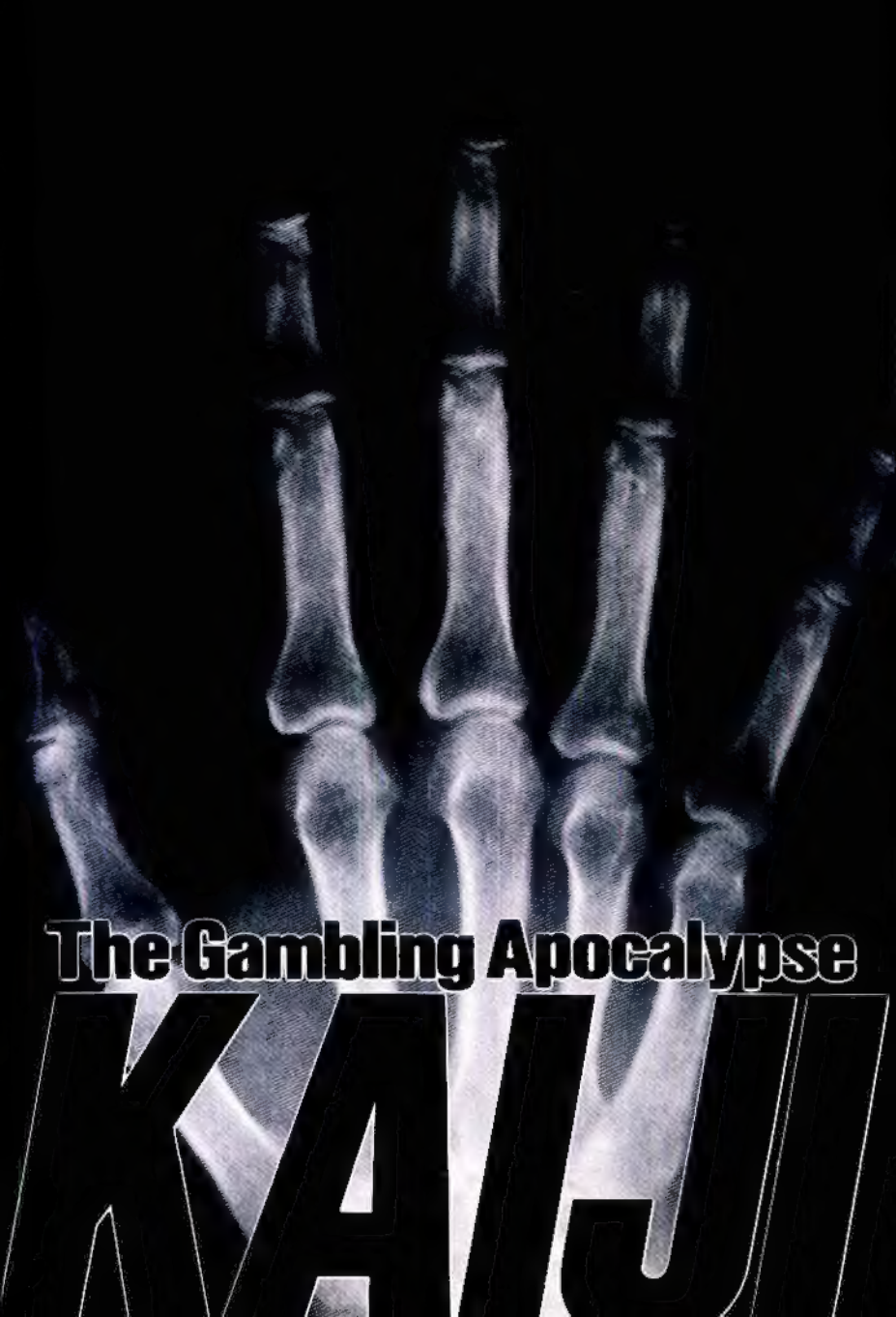
1996年9月6日　第1刷発行
1997年6月20日　第6刷発行

定価はカバーに表示してあります。

著者　福本伸行
発行者　五十嵐隆夫
発行所　株式会社講談社
東京都文京区音羽2-12-21
郵便番号　112-01
電話　編集部(03)5395-3461
販売部(03)5395-3608
印刷所　慶洋堂印刷株式会社
豊国印刷株式会社
製本所　永井製本株式会社

©福本伸行　1996年
本書の無断複写(コピー)は著作権法上での例外を除き禁じられています。
落丁本・乱丁本は小社雑誌業務部にお送りください。送料小社負担にてお取り替えします(電話03-5395-3603)。なお、この本についてのお問い合わせは、ヤングマガジン編集部あてにお願いいたします。

ISBN4-06-336608-1 (ヤマ)　Printed in Japan


The Gambling Apocalypse
KAIJI

608

ヤンマガ
KC

賭博黙示録

カイジ

1

福本伸行

講談社

9784063366082

雑誌 42525-08

ISBN4-06-336608-1

C9979 ¥505E (1)

講談社/定価530円 本体505円

1929979005054